

THE OBSERVER

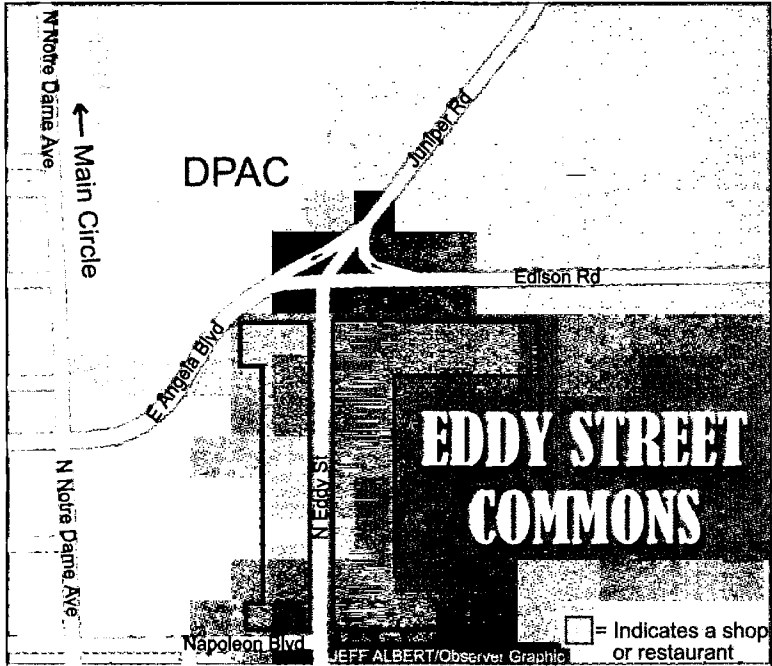
The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2006

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

University plans Eddy Street Commons



By KATIE PERRY
Assistant News Editor

Notre Dame is forging ahead with plans to develop a retail and residential district just south of campus and has confirmed talks with a preferred developer for the project, University officials said Tuesday.

Greg Hakanen, director of asset management and real estate development for Notre Dame, said the University has selected Indianapolis-based developer Kite Realty Group for "exclusive negotiations" in the Eddy Street Commons project.

"It's not for certain [the University is working with

Kite]," he said Tuesday. "That process has not been concluded yet."

Hakanen said there is "no particular time frame" for when the University plans to reach an agreement with the developer.

"We will finish and make an announcement once we've worked our way through the issues," he said.

Last Wednesday, Associate Vice President for News and Information Don Wycliff told the South Bend Tribune there were some "stumbling blocks," but said the University hopes to strike a deal with Kite.

Wycliff told The Observer Tuesday he could not discuss specifically what need-

see COMMONS/page 4

'Tradition' Shirt sales increasing

Fans embrace year's design, organizers say

By JOHN MINSER
News Writer

The Shirt, in normal years as much a staple of Notre Dame football as tailgates and the Victory March, will flood the Stadium this season as sales skyrocket far beyond the norm.

"[This year's Shirt] is trending better than any Shirt we've sold so far," said Sally Wiatrowski, director of retail operations at the Bookstore. "Just shy of 80,000 units have been sold."

This rivals even the legendary Return to Glory Shirt of 2002, when more than 100,000 Shirts were sold, she said.

Why so popular?

"There's a lot of things this year's Shirt has going for it," Shirt Project president Richard Fox said. "There's a very classical element. It's something every Notre Dame fan can relate to."

This year's The Shirt — the back of which reads "Tradition: This is the day and you are the team" — was the brainchild of senior Ryan Ricketts, whose design was selected over almost 25 other plans.

"I submitted the design way back in the first semester of last year," Ricketts said. "It just kind of came full circle. I wanted to show past coaches who had had great success, something well-liked, like a

see SHIRT/page 4

Students, alum climb Mount Kilimanjaro

Three Domers scale one of world's highest peaks over summer break



Photo courtesy of Greg Blasic
Kirsten and Caitlin Blazic reached the 19,350 foot summit of the mountain.

By MEGHAN WONS
News Writer

Notre Dame senior Colleen Mallahan, freshman Kirsten Blazic and Class of 2003 alum Caitlin Blazic all know what it feels like to stand on top of the world. And they have the pictures to prove it.

Over the summer, all three of these 'climbing Irish' reached the summit of Tanzania's Mt. Kilimanjaro, which at 19,350 feet is the highest freestanding mountain in the world.

Mallahan climbed Kilimanjaro — or "Kili," in her words — in June after taking a yearlong leave of absence from Notre Dame to attend the School for International Training in Uganda in the fall and the University of Cape Town in South Africa in the spring.

Originally from Seattle, Mallahan

see CLIMBS/page 6

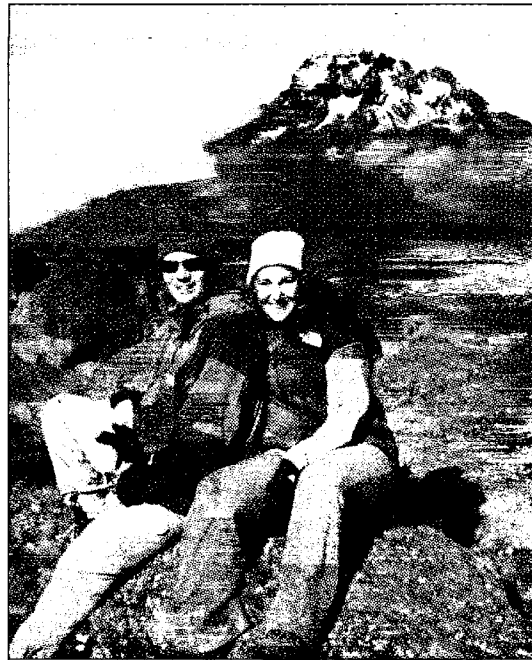


Photo courtesy of Colleen Mallahan
Colleen Mallahan, shown here with her climbing partner, sits at 16,000 feet.

Students rush to grab campus jobs

By MARCELA BERRIOS
News Writer

If that first encounter with the randomly appointed roommate was not sufficiently nerve-racking, freshmen also had to survive these past few days of frantic searching for a good job on campus.

Many returning students have also undergone the process of calling different offices, submitting resumes and waiting impatiently for good news from the people in charge.

Despite the rush for the

prime jobs, more often than not, the student does get hired. Currently more than 40 percent of the entire Notre Dame student body is employed on campus, said Matt Biergans, senior student service representative at the Office of Student Financial Services.

Biergans said more than 3,000 students from all socioeconomic backgrounds opt to take campus jobs that range from technology consultants at OIT's computer clusters, to lifeguards under the Athletic

see JOBS/page 6

Saint Mary's offers dual degree



KATE FENLON/The Observer
Freshman Colleen Murray studies Tuesday at Saint Mary's in preparation for the dual engineering degree with Notre Dame.

By KATIE KOHLER
News Writer

At two schools where finishing a degree in four years is strongly encouraged, a five-year engineering degree program offered between Saint Mary's and Notre Dame was formalized and updated after existing for nearly 30 years at the College.

Saint Mary's students are able to receive an engineering degree from Notre Dame in addition to a non-engineering Saint Mary's degree in just five years — a unique example of the close relationship between the schools.

see DEGREE/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

The Countdown

Three days, 21 hours, 42 minutes and 45, wait, 44 seconds until the moment I've been waiting for ever since the World Cup ended.

The moment when those gold helmets and blue jerseys will burst out of a tunnel in Atlanta, signaling the end of the dog days of summer and the commencement of the best four months of the year — college football season.

Greg Arbogast

Sports Writer

It seems the only thing that can get me more excited for the 2006 season would be a preseason poll. And not just any preseason poll, but the preseason edition of Greg Arbogast's completely biased, largely unresearched and partially credible College Football Top 10 Plus 1 Rankings.

Notre Dame — Did you honestly expect me to put somebody else in the top spot? This isn't even a biased ranking. Quinn, D-Walk, Samardzija, Rhema. Opposing defensive coordinators will be having very sleepless nights this fall.

Florida — There's a good vibe going through this state. Florida won the NCAA tournament, the Dolphins are primed to be serious contenders this year, and Florida hasn't even been hit by a hurricane ... yet.

West Virginia — Steve Slaton ran for 1,128 yards and 17 touchdowns. Pat White finished with combined totals of 1,780 yards and 15 touchdowns. Both led their school to its first BCS victory in Mountaineer history. What did you do your freshman year?

Texas — Back up just one second. Vince Young wasn't the only player on the Longhorns? And you're saying that he won't be on the team this year?

French "Football" Team — After Zidane's headbutt against Italy, the French proved they might have learned a little something about American football. Who says France is anti-globalization?

Ohio State — They would be higher, but I just can't stand that pompous little vest Jim Tressel wears. I'm already praying for a Fiesta Bowl rematch.

LSU — Which Tiger team will show up this season? The one which was pisted in the SEC championship game 34-14 by Georgia? Or the one which destroyed Miami 40-3 in the Peach Bowl — with their backup quarterback?

Louisville — Brian Brohm is the best quarterback you've never heard of. Michael Bush (no relation to Reggie) is the best running back you've never heard of. They play in the Big East. Any more questions?

Oklahoma — Adrian Peterson is the best college football player everyone completely forgot about. After rushing for 1,925 yards and making a serious run for the Heisman his freshman year, Peterson succumbed to injury and obscurity last season. Even without ex-quarterback Rhett Bonehead, expect Peterson to reappear this year.

South Carolina — No preseason ranking is complete without a dark horse team. Steve Spurrier was a disaster in the NFL, but boy can he ever coach college football.

USC — On the plus side for the Trojans, USC is leading the nation in ... sexual assaults.

Disagree with the rankings? Send me an e-mail with your set of rankings.

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogast@nd.edu

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE NEW EDDY STREET COMMONS?



David Chisum
freshman
Dillon

"In-N-Out. Best burger stand known to man."



Katie Smith
senior
Lyons

"The Wand Store because Gary needs a friend."



Graham Austin
sophomore
Basil

"What-A-Burger, because what a burger!"



Blair Mancini
senior
Keough

"Reckers. It's funny, you know, cause it's already here."



Ashley Braun
senior
off campus

"The famed Spanish clothing store Zara. It's a staple for any fashionista."



Brad Fleming
senior
Dillon

"Breffni — it's a taste of Ireland."



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Grand Master Soon Pii Hong breaks a brick during a demonstration at the World Taekwondo Federation Club's booth at Tuesday night's Activity Fair in the Joyce Center.

IN BRIEF

Today is the last day to make class changes through insideND.

"Goodie and The Feel Alrights" will perform at Legends at 10 p.m. Thursday. The show is free for students.

Chicago's "Howl at the Moon" dueling pianos will perform at Legends at 10 p.m. Friday. ND, SMC or HCC student ID required for admission.

"An Inconvenient Truth" will be shown at 7 & 10 p.m. Thursday and Friday in Browning Cinema at The DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Admission is \$6 for general public, \$5 for faculty, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for students.

The Snite Museum of Art will showcase Mexican migration to the United States through a multimedia exhibit that includes Chicano and Mexican visual arts beginning Sunday, Sept. 3 in the museum's O'Shaughnessy Galleries, Mestrovic Studio Gallery and the entrance atrium.

The sixth annual Saturday Scholar Series will feature six lectures and a performance by leading faculty members on each home football game weekend this fall. The first lecture, "More Than a Movie? Assessing 'The Da Vinci Code'" will be held, as always, three and a half hours before kickoff on Sept. 9 in DeBartolo 101.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews@nd.edu

OFFBEAT

Man throws phone 292 feet to win contest

HELSINKI, Finland — Ever heard of the Mobile Phone Throwing World Championship? It was held in Finland this weekend. Old phones were supplied for contestants who were allowed to pick which kind of phone they wanted to throw.

The men's winner threw his phone 292 feet. The women's winner tossed her phone 167 feet, a new world record according to the organizers. She said she has tossed a cell phone a time or two before.

Another contestant said

three things were needed to compete: technical skills, power and a sense of humor.

There were four competition categories: men, women, juniors and freestyle.

Sex toys confiscated in Vietnam

HANOI, Vietnam — Authorities in Vietnam's southern commercial hub of Ho Chi Minh City seized one ton of Chinese-made sex toys, aphrodisiacs and other sexual stimulants, state-controlled media reported Friday.

Police and market

inspectors Thursday confiscated the illegal shipment, which included more than 10,000 tablets of Viagra, sex toys and sexual stimulants in the form of tablets, powder and liquid hidden in a truckload of onions, the Laborer newspaper said.

The newspaper quoted a truck driver Mai Ngoc Hoang as saying he was hired to transport the goods from the northern province of Lang Son bordering China to Ho Chi Minh City.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

| | TODAY | TONIGHT | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| LOCAL WEATHER | | | | | | |
| | HIGH 75 LOW 57 | HIGH 65 LOW 57 | HIGH 78 LOW 58 | HIGH 80 LOW 60 | HIGH 82 LOW 65 | HIGH 83 LOW 55 |

Atlanta 87 / 72 Boston 65 / 59 Chicago 78 / 65 Denver 88 / 55 Houston 93 / 73 Los Angeles 81 / 66 Minneapolis 82 / 58 New York 77 / 64 Philadelphia 80 / 68 Phoenix 103 / 81 Seattle 65 / 52 St. Louis 79 / 63 Tampa 87 / 77 Washington 82 / 67

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group discusses goals for year

*Student safety, community relations, diversity at forefront of agenda*By KATHLEEN McDONNELL
News Writer

Safety concerns, community relations and diversity issues dominated discussion at Tuesday's Council of Representatives (COR) meeting.

To begin the group's first meeting of the academic year, student body president Lizzi Shappell asked representatives what topics they'd like to pursue in the coming months.

"I'd like to use this first meeting as a body [to hear] initial ideas that you have come up with for COR to tackle this year," Shappell said. "I lay out safety issues and community relations as two topics to address."

Shappell plans to have the South Bend Police Department (SBPD) visit COR again to address a growing number of student safety concerns.

Off-campus president Spencer Feren said SBPD would like to initiate a self-defense course at Notre Dame. Officers would address situations like that of the

female student allegedly assaulted in her Turtle Creek apartment last week.

To promote better community relations, Shappell brought up the community summit that was part of her election platform. The goal, she said, is to bring community leaders and local colleges and universities together for discussion.

"I'd like to focus on students becoming good neighbors in the community," Shappell said.

The summit would include not only Notre Dame, Saint

Mary's and Holy Cross but also other South Bend institutions like Indiana University—South Bend.

Sophomore class president Lulu Meraz brought up

race relations as a crucial issue for COR to address.

"Racism and indifferent comments—that was a really big issue for me last year," Meraz said. "I've heard it both in joke settings and in normal, serious conversation."

The body focused its attentions on working with the dorms to create an atmos-

phere in which all students feel welcome. The multicultural committee is currently training a multicultural commissioner from each dorm, Pangborn senator Sheena Plamoottil said. If COR brainstorms initiatives, the committee can pass the information directly into the dorms through the commissioners, she said.

COR members also discussed the possibility of further integrating diversity exercises into resident assistant training so that these dorm leaders can foster a sense of openness among their residents.

Meraz said the multicultural committee could institute mandatory diversity meetings, at least for freshmen, like the Pillars group already does.

In other COR news:

♦ COR confirmed Tara Johnson as the academic delegate for the College of Science.

♦ Patrick Murren was approved as academic delegate for the College of Engineering.

♦ Gina Dolan was approved as the Judicial Council vice president of peer advocacy.

Contact Kathleen McDonnell at kmcdonn3@nd.edu

Project discusses China before 2008 Olympics

Special to the Observer

The global community will learn much about China in two years, when Beijing plays host to the 2008 Olympic Games (Aug. 8 to 24). And, to hear from the average Chinese citizen, the world has much to learn, according to interviews conducted earlier this year by a Notre Dame professor.

Jonathan Noble, a visiting assistant professor of East Asian languages and literatures, has compiled a DVD featuring interviews with Beijing residents from diverse social and economic backgrounds on what they think about their country hosting the Olympics. He was assisted on the project by Kevin Abbott, an educational technology specialist at the University.

The participants were asked seven questions concerning the Olympics and their relationship to China's contemporary social and culture environment. The respondents were generally positive about the Olympics, saying they plan to serve as volunteers and that the Games will mark a significant turning point in the nation's history.

Most notably, the interviewees believe China is "misunderstood" worldwide and hope that the media coverage of the country during the Olympics will correct misperceptions.

"They (the Games) will revise the way the world views and understands China and Beijing,"

said Gao Ming, an attorney. "Because, perhaps, China has been viewed as a traditional country, and now there is this idea of the 'China threat,' actually the Olympics may change the views of foreigners who come to Beijing ... China is actually both a tolerant and friendly country that possesses a modern consciousness. It is also a very advanced and modern country."

Dong Shuzhen, a retiree, said that the media focus during the Olympics will "display China's effective role within the global community ... Before, foreigners considered China to be the 'sick patient' of East Asia."

Lui De, the owner of a design company in Beijing, recognized that positive and negative media accounts of China will be written and broadcast in two years.

"If you host the Olympics, lots of media from the West will be reporting," he said. "Of course, during the reporting, some things will be good, others bad. That's not a problem. This information will let people in the West have an objective understanding of China, of Beijing, and of Beijing's current development."

Not all of the responses to various questions were quite so profound.

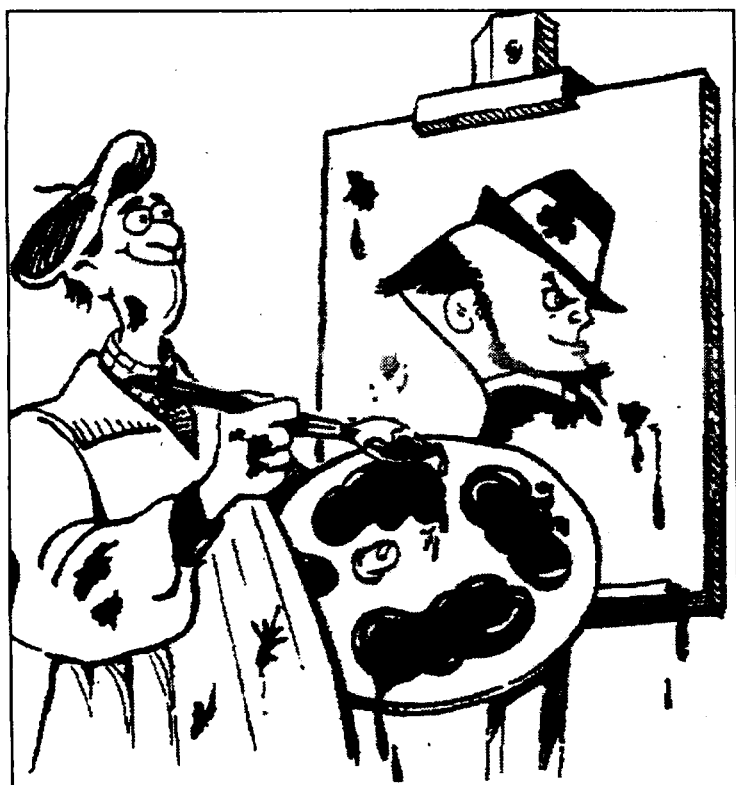
The attorney, Gao Ming, for example, said foreign visitors should know three things about China in advance of the Olympics: "how to use chopsticks ... cross the street ... and use the squat toilets."

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Who: Class of 2007 Students

When: Pictures taken
Aug 30 - Sept. 15

Where: La Fortune 108

Why: To be in your 2007 Notre Dame
Dome Yearbook

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Shirt

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slogan people would remember and embrace."

The goal of The Shirt design was a "juxtaposition of our successful past and our bright future," Ricketts said.

Each Shirt is the painstaking result of nearly a year of planning. In the fall, a Shirt project president is chosen, who then opens invitations for design concepts. In years past, Shirt production has been overseen solely by the graphic designer and the president of The Shirt project.

This year, however, Fox decided to take The Shirt in a new direction.

"I did it a little different this year," Fox said. "I wanted to make a committee around me."

This committee, working alongside Ricketts, adjusted

the concept design to form the final product.

The Shirt was first conceived in 1990 as a fundraiser for graduate student Zhengde Wang. Wang was struck by a car while walking along Notre Dame Avenue in October 1989 and spent over a year in various medical facilities throughout South Bend. His parents flew to South Bend from Tianjin, China to be with him.

In 1990, Sister Jean Lenz and then-director of Student Activities Joe Cassidy suggested a T-shirt be sold to help raise money to pay for Wang's medical bills and for his parents' travel costs,

according to the University Archives.

Orders for the first Shirt arrived before the design was even complete. By the time all sales were in, over 32,000 Shirts had been sold, with \$170,000 going to the Wang family.

Contact John Minser at jminser@nd.edu

"There's a very classical element. It's something every Notre Dame fan can relate to."

Richard Fox
Shirt Project president

Commons

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ed to be resolved between the two parties before an agreement is reached.

Kite would head the development of Eddy Street Commons, a commercial district to be located near Eddy Street and Angela Boulevard on land owned by the University. The project would also include two new residential areas.

Hakanen said the number of shops is ultimately "up to the developer" to decide. The current plan calls for 85,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space, he said.

"We talk about philosophy and there is some general guidance," he said. "But the developer is the landlord and it's up to them to tenant space."

Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves told The Observer in February

2005 that the retail area might include "a small boutique, some restaurants ... [and] maybe a bookstore."

"You're not going to get a Gap, a Banana Republic, something like that," he said in February.

Hakanen told the Tribune that he and organizers have visited other campus commercial centers — such as Maxwell Street at the University of Chicago — to see "how the retail was laid out."

The cost of the project is unknown at this time, he said.

South Bend Mayor Steven

Luecke said Tuesday the development project will bring "new energy, new investment and new attention" to the South Bend area.

Luecke said while South Bend's Committee for Economic Development is most involved with the project, he has attended meetings with officials, neighbors and other partners.

"We are very excited about the Northeast Redevelopment Plan," he said. "It's been a great partnership."

Luecke said the plan would tie in with other area revitalization efforts, such as the expansion of the South Bend Clinic and the redevelopment of St. Joseph Hospital. These projects and others — such as investment down-

town and at the East Bank —

"compliment and support each other," he said.

The new area will also provide a "great space for people to come together," he said.

"I think this spot will be a great point of connection for the University and the community," Luecke said. "I am grateful for the partnership we have with the University."

Wycliff said uniting the campus with the community is "part of the hope" of the development project.

"The hope [is] that not only will it give Notre Dame a commercial and community square type environment, but that it will be a place where town and gown meet," he said.

Contact Katie Perry at kperry5@nd.edu

"We are very excited about the Northeast Redevelopment Plan. It's been a great partnership."

Steven Luecke
South Bend mayor

Degree

continued from page 1

The program, which has been available to Saint Mary's science and mathematics majors since 1977, gives students the chance to pursue an engineering major — a degree not offered at Saint Mary's alone.

Students involved in the co-exchange major program take pre-engineering courses to fulfill the degree requirements at Saint Mary's prior to taking the required engineering courses at Notre Dame.

Cathy Pieronek, director of Academic Affairs and the Women's Engineering Program for Notre Dame's School of Engineering, said the University works with Saint Mary's students to make sure they are taking the appropriate calculus, chemistry and physics courses before they enroll in engineering classes.

"Some of the classes are scheduled so they are woven together so that they count toward both majors," she said.

Pieronek said the hardest part of the five-year program is getting through the first and second years.

"By the time we see the students [at Notre Dame] in their junior year, they are already fully committed to finishing the major," she said. "Once students reach their first engineering classes at Notre Dame, most continue with the

major."

Toni Barstis, chemistry department chair and dual-degree advisor at Saint Mary's, said the program is advantageous to the women interested in combining scientific knowledge, human values and proficiency in the professional world.

"The program broadens professional and post-graduate opportunities by enhancing students' technical skills with the values and problem-solving skills developed through a women's liberal arts education," she said.

Although the program has existed for several years, significant changes have been made this year to improve the program, most notably the simplification of the transfer process.

"The [transfer] process has been streamlined and made faster," Barstis said.

Notre Dame has agreed to make the transfer process more efficient by requiring only official college transcripts and a transfer application form, Barstis said. Students will not have to submit standardized test scores, high school transcripts or a personal statement.

Also this year, Saint Mary's has offered to provide on-campus housing for students in their fifth year.

Barstis said she is pleased with the updated program.

"Now students can benefit from the best of both institutions by combining the broad liberal arts foundation of the

Saint Mary's experience with the strength of Notre Dame's engineering curriculum," she said. "It also offers the option and flexibility to design a combination of majors that fits a student's individual interests."

Junior Emily Coffey, who is majoring in chemical engineering at Notre Dame and chemistry at Saint Mary's, cites the dual major as one of the incentives that convinced her to attend Saint Mary's.

"I'm really glad that an engineering program was offered here [Saint Mary's] because that is always what I've wanted to do," Coffey said. "I would have gone to Purdue otherwise."

Erin Heck is also a junior chemistry major in the joint engineering program. She said she enjoys the opportunity dual engineering majors are given to experience both schools.

"We have the joy of attending small classes and benefit from having a liberal arts education from Saint Mary's, but we also have the opportunity to experience the atmosphere of a larger university," Heck said. "This program is an opportunity of a lifetime."

Susan Vanek, associate dean for advising at Saint Mary's, spoke highly of the program and its coordinator.

"[Barstis] has done a lot of work over the last few years to make it more feasible for Saint Mary's students to do a major here with engineering at Notre Dame," Vanek said.

Nicole Gifford, a fifth-year senior majoring in chemical engineering, said the program's course load is difficult.

"But it is definitely worth it," she said.

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohle01@saintmarys.edu

The Journey

...an invitation to follow Jesus

BACK TO SCHOOL PARTY

When: Wednesday, August 30th, from 7—9 PM

Where: Coffee House, Center for Social Concerns (CSC)

What: Food, Fun, New Friends, Opportunities to learn about being involved

The Alpha course (Mondays, 7:30—8:45 in the CSC Classroom)

What is it? Alpha is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, non-threatening setting over ten thought-provoking weekly sessions, with a day or weekend away. Desert and coffee provided.

The Journey (Wednesdays, 7:30—8:45 in the CSC Upper Room)

The Journey is our large group meeting and is a catalyst for following Jesus Christ daily.

Small Groups — The Journey Together
Freshman groups are being formed

The Journey is sponsored by BCM. Visit us online at www.nd.edu/~bcm or send us an e-mail at bcm@nd.edu



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

British police arrest more suspects

LONDON — British anti-terrorist police charged three more people late Tuesday with conspiring to commit murder in the alleged plot to blow up U.S.-bound airliners.

The three — Mohammed Yasar Gulzar, Mohammed Shamin Uddin and Nabeel Hussain — were also charged with preparing to commit terrorism by helping in an alleged plan to smuggle explosives aboard the planes, police said.

Eleven people have now been charged on those two counts. Four others were charged with lesser offenses, including having knowledge of a terrorist activity but not disclosing information about it.

A Scotland Yard statement said Gulzar, Uddin and Hussain conspired with eight other suspects in the alleged plot and had intended to commit "acts of terrorism engaged in conduct to give effect to their intention to smuggle the component parts of improvised explosive devices onto aircraft and assemble and detonate them on board."

Afghanistan suicide bomber kills 21

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — A suicide bomber in a car struck a NATO-Afghan military convoy Tuesday, killing one civilian and wounding two others, a day after a bomb at a market left 21 civilians dead and 43 wounded, officials said.

Another bomb, detonated by remote control, killed two police on patrol in Helmand province, an official said.

The suicide bomber hit the military convoy on the main road linking Kandahar with the city's airport, said Col. Sher Shah, who was in the convoy. No NATO soldiers were wounded.

A civilian driving near the convoy died in the blast, while another civilian and an Afghan soldier were wounded, Shah said.

NATIONAL NEWS

Tower controller missed plane crash

LEXINGTON, Ky. — The lone air traffic controller on duty the morning Comair Flight 5181 crashed cleared the jet for takeoff, then turned his back to do some "administrative duties" as the aircraft veered down the wrong runway, a federal investigator said Tuesday.

The crash killed 49 people — everyone on board except first officer James Polehinke, who was in critical condition Tuesday.

The jet struggled to get airborne and crashed in a field after taking off Sunday from a 3,500-foot runway instead of an adjoining one that was twice as long. Experts said the plane needed at least 5,000 feet for takeoff.

Poverty rate stabilizes in latest study

WASHINGTON — Four years into an economic recovery, the number of people living in poverty has finally stopped climbing.

Household incomes edged up slightly in 2005, but 37 million people were still living below the poverty line, about the same as the year before, the Census Bureau reported Tuesday.

It was the first year without an increase in poverty since 2000, just before President Bush took office.

The numbers immediately became political fodder, with a little more than two months to go before midterm congressional elections that will determine whether Republicans continue to control the House and the Senate.

LOCAL NEWS

Officers attend funeral of policeman

BROWNSBURG, Ind. — Hundreds of police officers, family members and friends packed a church Tuesday for the funeral of a state trooper killed while bicycling to raise money for the families of fallen comrades.

Mourners said Indiana State Police Lt. Gary Dudley, 52, led by example as commander of the state's police academy, teaching at least 700 troopers.

"He just did things the right way," Indiana State Police 1st Sgt. Brian Olehy said before the service.

Ernesto drenches south Florida

Miami could get up to a foot of rain; residents prepare for storm by filling sandbags

Associated Press

MIAMI — Tropical Storm Ernesto's leading edge drenched Miami and the rest of southern Florida on Tuesday as it steamed toward the Sunshine State with a potential for more than a foot of rain. But forecasters said there was only an outside chance it would strengthen into a hurricane.

Residents took no chances, though, mindful of the seven hurricanes that have hit the state since 2004 and Katrina, which struck New Orleans exactly one year ago.

"I don't think it's going to be too big, but you never know," said Frankel Herad as he removed brightly colored African dresses from the walls of his store in Miami's Little Haiti neighborhood.

By late afternoon, Ernesto had top winds of 45 mph. And there was only a "remote possibility" it could become a hurricane with winds of 74 mph or greater before crossing over Florida overnight, the National Hurricane Center said.

Forecasters expected 5 to 15 inches of rain, which could flood streets and homes. Residents in flood-prone areas filled thousands of sandbags in anticipation of high water.

"People will let their guard down. They're going to do foolish things and they're going to get hurt. This storm is not over," said Craig Fugate, the state's emergency management director.

Ernesto was expected to move up the middle of the state and over the northeastern coast by early Thursday before churning into the Atlantic Ocean, where it could regain hurricane status before hitting Georgia or the Carolinas.



National Hurricane Center forecaster Richard Pasch, left, conducts a Tropical Storm Ernesto coordinating conference call at the hurricane center in Miami on Tuesday.

Ernesto was briefly a hurricane Sunday before it struck Cuba.

Gov. Jeb Bush, joined by Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff, said the state was ready to respond to any problems with 500 National Guardsmen and another 500 state law enforcement officers.

"This does not look like a catastrophic event, but we always want to be ready," said Chertoff, who had just come from the Katrina anniversary events in Louisiana and Mississippi.

NASA scrubbed Tuesday's launch of Atlantis. The space agency began moving the

shuttle back to its hangar to protect it from the storm, then reversed course later in the day when forecasters predicted winds would not be as severe as initially feared.

At 5 p.m. EDT, Ernesto was centered over warm open water in the Florida Straits, about 105 miles south of Miami. It was moving northwest at about 13 mph.

Across populous South Florida, residents scurried to make last-minute preparations. Most schools were closed, and lines formed early at groceries, gas stations, pharmacies and hardware stores.

Officials repeatedly urged people to have enough supplies for 72 hours, especially given the likelihood of power outages.

In Davie, Pedro Concepcion was about to leave his mobile home to get supplies, including wood to board up the windows and a tarp for his roof.

"Last year we had a lot of damage, so we want to be prepared. We still have some damage to windows," he said.

Officials in the Miami-Dade and Fort Lauderdale areas urged mobile home residents to evacuate, but not all did so.

President consoles New Orleans

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — President Bush comforted this city that lost so much in Hurricane Katrina and has regained so little in the year since. Amid the raw sorrow of Tuesday's anniversary, the president selected a few beacons of hope to give a lift to struggling Gulf communities and his own still-smarting presidency.

He scarfed hotcakes with happy patrons at Betsy's Pancake House, a reopened hangout in a downtrodden, flood-stained New Orleans neighborhood. He chose as a speech backdrop a new charter school viewed as a sign of the city's commitment to a better post-Katrina educational system.

He called on rhythm and blues legend and local favorite son Fats Domino, who is restoring his destroyed Ninth Ward home, and replaced the National Medal of Arts that got washed away with everything else. He visited a Habitat for Humanity project nearby that is building dozens of homes for displaced local musicians.

He even met the New Orleans Saints, whose return to the Superdome next month is cheered here as a symbol of normalcy in the very place that 30,000 storm victims grew increasingly desperate in the days after Katrina's strike.

"The challenge is not only to help rebuild, but the challenge is to help restore the soul," Bush said in a speech heavily laced with religious references.

"Sunday has not yet come to New Orleans, but you can see it ahead."

When Katrina roared ashore east of New Orleans last Aug. 29, it left 80 percent of New Orleans underwater, killed 1,800 people across the Gulf Coast, destroyed or severely damaged more than 204,000 homes and made more than 800,000 people homeless overnight.

A year later, New Orleans and other hard-hit parts of southeastern Louisiana haven't even emerged entirely from the cleanup phase. With insurance settlements in dispute, no master rebuilding plan from the city, and federal grants only beginning to flow to residents, significant reconstruction efforts seem a distant hope for most.

Climbs

continued from page 1

is vice president of the Notre Dame Climbing Club and has climbed often since she began college, she said.

When Mallahan was 16, a summer service trip to her sister parish in Malawi sparked her interest in climbing Kilimanjaro.

"I saw it (Kilimanjaro) from the plane and it has been sort of a life dream to climb it ever since," Mallahan said.

She prepared for her five-day trek up the mountain by going climbing and hiking almost all weekend, every weekend while studying in Cape Town, she said, in addition to weekly surfing lessons.

"Between the swimming and surfing, hiking and climbing, I was in pretty good shape before I attempted the climb," Mallahan said.

She climbed with a Canadian student who was also studying abroad at Cape Town, a guide, an assistant guide, four porters and a cook, she said.

Mallahan recorded her journey up the mountainside in a daily Weblog, both to update her friends and family and to have a memory of the experience.

On June 20, two days after Mallahan began her ascent, she hit 15,520 feet and was preparing for the push to the summit.

"[We] spent the afternoon eating and resting and mentally preparing for our summit attempt, which was to start at midnight," she wrote of the day.

"With the summit still nearly 4,000 snowy feet above us, I was excited but slightly terrified."

After Mallahan reached the top of the mountain at sunrise on June 21, she was able to pause and reflect on her surroundings.

"It will be a long time before I forget the moment at which the first rays of sun hit the glaciers of Kilimanjaro," she wrote. "The soft red glow of dawn slowly turned the sky pink and then blue as I took pictures ... although the summit of Kili is often characterized by wind and -30 degree (Celsius) temperatures, we were treated to blue skies and sunshine at the summit."

If Mallahan has it her way, even more peaks may be on her horizon.

"While I definitely need a peri-

od of rest before attempting another big peak, Kilimanjaro left me with an even stronger desire to climb the mountains in my own backyard corner of the United States," she said.

While Mallahan's dream of climbing Kilimanjaro began when she was just 16, freshman Kirsten Blazic said she wasn't initially interested in making the climb. Her father, Greg Blazic, and older sister Caitlin Blazic convinced her to go.

The three reached the summit together on August 6 — just weeks before Kirsten Blazic arrived on Notre Dame's campus for Freshman Orientation week-end.

None of the Blazics had any previous mountain climbing experience, Kirsten Blazic said, but the three had planned their

trip to Africa since last August.

Blazic was a long distance runner in high school and prepared for the climb by following a beginning marathon runner's training schedule, she said.

"The most difficult part of the climb was definitely the last couple of days when we were approaching the summit," she said. "It became entirely mental."

The Blazics spent the night at the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro, and Kirsten Blazic said she has never been so cold.

"We woke up in the morning to the sound of our porters chipping ice off of our tents," she said. "After that, I don't think Notre Dame winters will be so bad."

Contact Meghan Wons at mwons@nd.edu

Jobs

continued from page 1

Department's jurisdiction, to cashiers for the different restaurants and cafés that Food Services oversees.

On average, these students will work between eight and 10 hours a week and earn from \$6.75 to \$7.65 per hour, according to the Office of Student Employment.

"The minimum wage is \$6.75, which is fifteen cents higher than last year and in line with what other universities pay their student employees," Biergans said.

Sophomore Andrew Parnell is one of those 3,000 students who balance work with school.

"Last semester I worked

around thirteen hours every week, which wasn't too hard because I enjoy my job, but it definitely took away valuable time that I could've used to study for some of my tougher classes," he said.

But the responsibility and time commitment factors don't seem to threaten the demand for jobs among students at Notre Dame.

"Our jobs are usually all full by the end of the first or second week of the semester," said Kelly Koski, University Libraries business manager.

Students also tend to stick to their first placement, rather than jump around to different jobs, Koski said.

"Once students start working for us, they often return to that job or another within the library for the rest of their

time at ND," she said.

While many employment opportunities for students are posted in the Office of Financial Aid's online job board, University Libraries simply resorts to printed applications available to anybody who visits the Hesburgh Library at the beginning of every semester.

Though opportunities abound, there are still students having trouble finding a job that fits their schedule.

"I didn't really realize at first that all the good jobs would be gone quickly, and I went over to the Huddle really late," freshman Jenn Perriconi said. "All the good Starbucks shifts were gone. All that is left now are Friday and Saturday night shifts. Next semester I am definitely get-

ting out [of] there as soon as possible."

There is still hope of finding that perfect campus job.

"If there really is a department that interests you, and you would like to work with them, just check back to see if there are any positions that may open up throughout the year," Biergans said. "As departments and other organizations settle into the school year and the workload grows, there may be new opportunities for students to come in and work. Something new opens up everyday."

Just ask freshman Sierra McNamara.

"I was doing kidney cancer research over the summer and wanted to continue doing that at the undergraduate level," she said. "I e-mailed a biology

professor over the summer to see if she would be willing to take me on board, even though I'm a just a freshman, and it turns out that she was really helpful about it and I will be working with her this semester."

Though the work may be time-consuming, students like Parnell and McNamara come away with valuable insight about dealing with superiors and co-workers that cannot be taught in the classroom.

That shift during the lunch break is almost like another class, but the reward doesn't come in credits or letter grades. It's the cash that will pay for those weekend taxi rides.

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu

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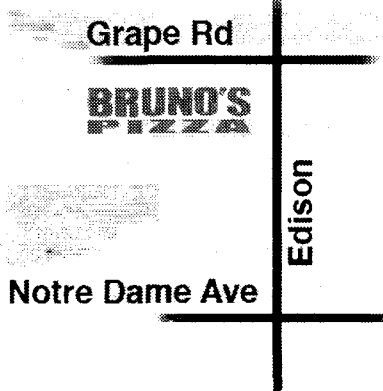
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Dow Jones 10,463.05 +65.76

Up: 2,052 Same: 167 Down: 1,189 Composite Volume: 1,600,112,920

AMEX 1,389.67 -227.69
NASDAQ 2,137.65 +16.88
NYSE 7,413.98 +34.12
S&P 500 1,212.28 +7.18
NIKKEI(Tokyo) 12,309.83 0.00
FTSE 100(London) 5,228.10 -27.60

| COMPANY | %CHANGE | \$GAIN | PRICE |
|-------------------------|---------|--------|-------|
| NASDAQ 100 (QQQQ) | +0.78 | +0.30 | 38.76 |
| MICROSOFT CP (MSFT) | +0.67 | +0.18 | 27.15 |
| CISCO SYS INC (CSCO) | +1.38 | +0.24 | 17.64 |
| INTEL CP (INTC) | +1.26 | +0.32 | 25.73 |
| SUN MICROSYS INC (SUNW) | +1.09 | +0.04 | 3.71 |

| Treasures | | | |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 30-YEAR BOND | -0.39 | -0.17 | 43.64 |
| 10-YEAR NOTE | -0.38 | -0.16 | 41.73 |
| 5-YEAR NOTE | -0.15 | -0.06 | 40.78 |
| 3-MONTH BILL | +0.52 | +0.18 | 34.85 |

| Commodities | | |
|--------------------------|-------|--------|
| LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.) | +1.07 | 67.20 |
| GOLD (\$/Troy oz.) | -0.70 | 441.40 |
| PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.) | +1.20 | 82.83 |

| Exchange Rates | |
|----------------|----------|
| YEN | 110.5650 |
| EURO | 0.8174 |
| POUND | 0.5567 |
| CANADIAN \$ | 1.1975 |

IN BRIEF

Gold decreases; crude oil follows

NEW YORK — More weakness in crude oil sent New York gold futures to their lowest level in more than a month Tuesday.

December gold fell \$4.80 to \$619.10 a troy ounce on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

"As we see the energy market pulling down, I think there is less fear that there is going to be inflationary pressures," said John Person, president of National Futures Advisory Service. This, in turn, reduces the likelihood of any future Federal Reserve rate hikes, he continued.

"But by the same token, gold is probably coming into a value area here from \$610 to \$620," he continued. "Six hundred [dollars] is going to be quite significant support."

When inflationary fears subside, this also means an increased likelihood of an economic slowdown, related Person.

"And if there is an economic slowdown, people have less disposable money for spending on jewelry," he said. "So jewelry demand could potentially decline as well."

Japanese restaurants sell U.S. beef

TOKYO — Japanese restaurant chain Zenshoku said it will serve U.S. beef starting Tuesday, a first among this nation's restaurants since the ban on American beef was lifted last month.

American beef has been trickling in to Japan since the easing of the ban, imposed in 2003 due to mad cow fears. Many Japanese are worried about the safety of U.S. beef, which have yet to be sold at Japanese supermarkets — except for the nation's five Costco stores, run by the Japan unit of U.S. warehouse retailer Costco Wholesale Corp.

Zenshoku Co., which specializes in Korean-style barbecue dishes said in a statement on its Web site that it plans to offer U.S. beef starting with the Tuesday evening dinner rush. Zenshoku operates about 80 restaurants mostly in the Tokyo area and western prefecture (state) of Osaka, where it's based. It will serve U.S. beef at 57 locations, spokeswoman Tae Okuda said.

On the menu, the various dishes clearly list the origin of the beef — U.S., Australia or Japan. A serving of American roast costs 480 yen (\$4), while a bigger serving of a variety of cuts costs 1,200 yen (\$10).

Toyota, Honda come to Indiana

Brand loyalty fades for U.S. automobile companies; GM prepares for sales drop

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — When it comes to the automobile, Indianapolis has been a General Motors stronghold since the 1920s.

Nearly two of every five new vehicles sold in central Indiana are GM models. That's the largest market share for any automaker, and one of GM's best showings in any major metro area in the nation.

Now, some dealers of GM brands sense the loyalty might fade, and with it, sales.

By 2008, Toyota Camry midsize sedans will roll off an assembly line in Lafayette. Honda cars — probably compact Civics and subcompact Fits — will be made in Greensburg.

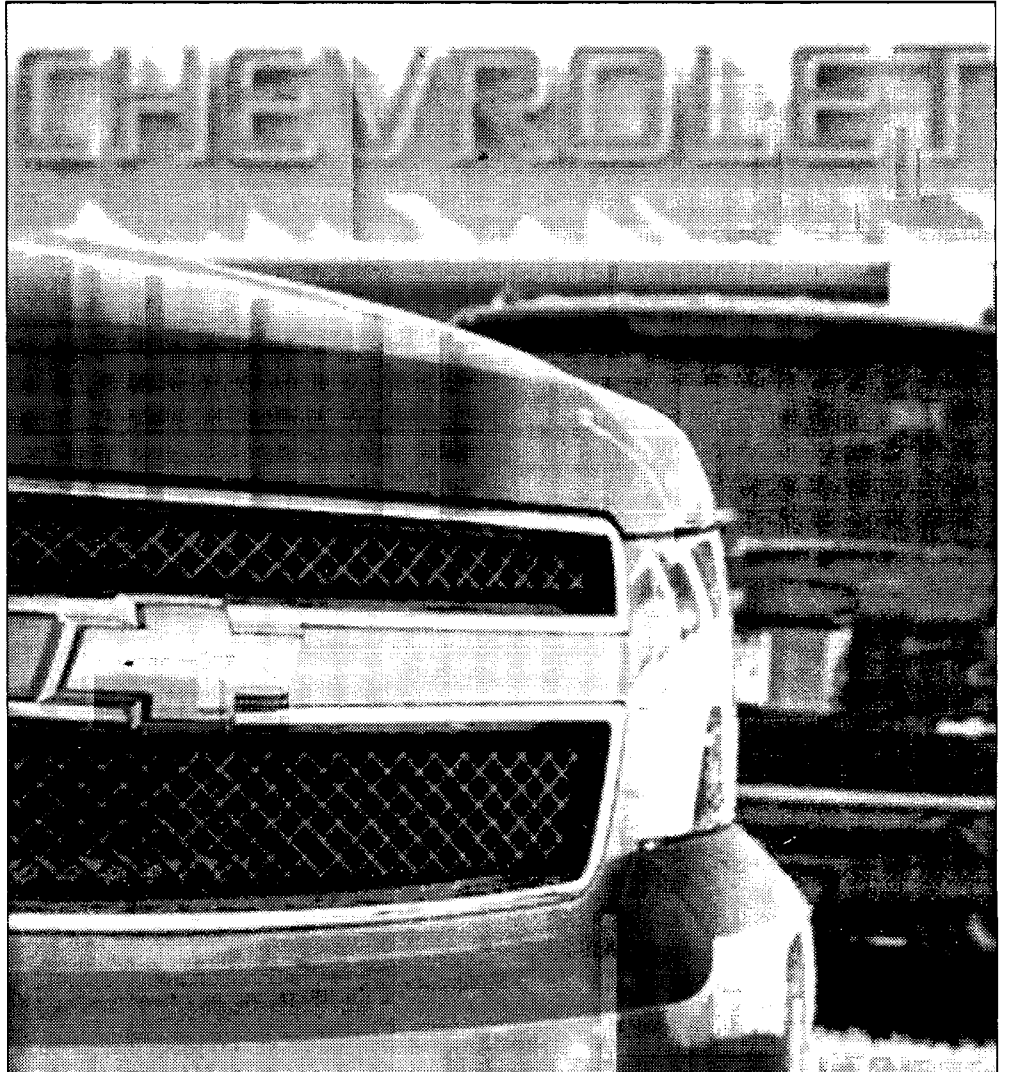
As a result, Honda is set to become a key piece of industrial Indiana. Toyota is already a major manufacturer here. And GM officials say steadfast customers could accept Japanese nameplates, trading Buicks and Chevys for Hondas and Toyotas.

"It's going to be OK for a farmer to drive a Toyota Tundra" pickup truck, suggests Jay Neisius, GM's Chevrolet market manager in Indianapolis.

Could GM's vaunted market share crumble? Sales reports show that simply because an automobile is made in Indiana, it doesn't guarantee sterling success on the car lots.

"I actually think Honda having a plant in Greensburg will help Toyota sales in Indiana," said Skip Walters, general manager of O'Brien Toyota, an Eastside Indianapolis dealership. "Honda's an import, too. Having them in Indiana will break down the barriers people have. Camry going to Lafayette will help, too."

Today, four automakers turn out nine car and truck models in five Indiana assembly plants. Only one of those models — GM's Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck — is an Indianapolis sales leader.



A 2007 Chevy Tahoe sits in a dealership lot in Lone Tree, Colo. Sunday. GM sales are expected to decline as Japanese companies move production to the United States.

Toyota's competing Tundra also hails from Indiana — little Princeton near Evansville. For every Tundra sold off a Toyota lot in Central Indiana, however, Chevy dealers sell 20 Silverados.

Drivers don't buy the Chevys because they prefer Fort Wayne, home of a Silverado assembly line. On the car lots, geography seems irrelevant, Walters said.

"I don't know if people in Indianapolis even view southwest Indiana as home-grown or part of their area," Walters said. The reason: No freeway links the regions, so the Evansville area seems remote.

Drivers here buy autos, Walters said, for the same

reason as they do in other states. They shop for quality, price and design. That's what has hurt the Tundra's sales.

The pickup has always seemed a tad small compared with Silverado, though Toyota now is bringing out a beefier model. Expecting larger sales volumes, it also is opening a second Tundra plant, at San Antonio.

Seventeen years after Subaru opened in Lafayette, almost a decade after Toyota landed at Princeton, Central Indiana has warmed to foreign makes. International brands account for one of every three new autos sold in the area.

"There are still people who care and won't buy a Japanese car," said Gary

Hohmann, new car manager at Butler Toyota, a Westside dealership, referring to baby boomers and seniors.

Still, this is Detroit country — Ford, Chrysler and especially GM.

General Motors counts 91,000 employees, retirees and their dependents in Indiana, the largest GM concentration outside Southeast Michigan. That drives brand loyalty. Employees and their dependents, and employees of GM suppliers, receive GM price discounts on new autos.

"In my 40 years experience in Indianapolis, we've always dealt with a very powerful GM influence," said Jerry Harvey, president of Paul Harvey Ford, a Westside dealership.

Feds meet; market recovers losses

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street advanced for a second straight session Tuesday after minutes from the latest Federal Reserve meeting failed to produce any bombshells about the economy, and oil prices dropped below \$70 per barrel.

Stocks recovered from earlier losses triggered by disappointment over the Conference Board's consumer confidence index, which slipped further than expected and raised the possibility that the economy may be moderating faster than hoped.

The market initially waffled after the release of the minutes from the Fed's Aug. 8 meeting, when the

central bank refrained from raising interest rates. Wall Street had become cautiously optimistic that the Fed's two-year campaign of 17 straight rate hikes is over, especially given recent economic reports that pointed in that direction.

The minutes said the pause in rate hikes would give the central bank time to determine if the increases have contained inflation without slowing the economy's growth too far, but it did not rule out further credit tightening.

"The Fed initially knocked the market down, but once that was away and people realized it wasn't as bad as it could have been, buyers came into the market and took it up," said Todd Leone, managing

director of equity trading at Cowen & Co. "The Fed is being vigilant on inflation, and we're seeing evidence the economy is slowing down. They have to portray a tough stance."

The minutes showed that the central bank believed another rate increase "could well be needed" to slow inflation and orchestrate an economic soft landing. But, the market largely discounted the comment since a series of reports, including slowing home sales and the latest consumer confidence numbers, indicated the economy is indeed slowing.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index advanced 2.50, or 0.19 percent, to a three-month high of 1,304.28.

ISRAEL

Annan orders end to blockade of Lebanon

Israel will leave once troops secure border, halt aid to Hezbollah

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan called Israel's air and sea blockade of Lebanon a "humiliation" Tuesday and demanded it be lifted. But Israel said it first needed assurances that forces deployed on the border can stop weapons shipments to Hezbollah.

The dispute was the latest threat to the fragile cease-fire that ended 34 days of fighting between Israel and Hezbollah guerrillas.

Annan arrived in Israel as part of an 11-day Mideast tour intended to shore up the truce, help Lebanon recover and secure the release of two Israeli soldiers whose capture by Hezbollah on July 12 sparked the fighting.

"We need to resolve the issue of the abducted soldiers very quickly," Annan said during a visit earlier Tuesday to a U.N. base in south Lebanon. "We need to deal with the lifting of the embargo — sea, land and air — which for the Lebanese is a humiliation and an infringement on their sovereignty."

In Israel, Annan met with Defense Minister Amir Peretz and urged the blockade be lifted "as

soon as possible in order to allow Lebanon to go on with normal commercial activities and also rebuild its economy."

Israel has said it will allow free movement once it is assured the forces deployed on Lebanon's borders can prevent Hezbollah from rearming itself. Israel wants international forces to help patrol the Lebanon-Syria border to enforce an arms embargo on Hezbollah. Lebanon says its troops can secure the border on their own.

Peretz said he told Annan about the importance of controlling the border "and the implementation of the embargo against the transfer of arms and ammunition between Syria and Lebanon."

Annan said Israel was responsible for most of the violations of the cease-fire and appealed for everyone to work together to ensure peace holds and "not risk another explosion in six years or 20 years."

Israeli troops are still occupying a security zone in southern Lebanon and have sporadically fought with Hezbollah guerrillas since the truce took effect Aug. 14. Israel says it won't leave until a sufficiently strong contingent of Lebanese and international troops arrives.

Annan said the U.N. hoped to have 5,000 soldiers in the region by Friday. That is double its prewar number, but still far short of the 15,000 international troops eventually supposed to patrol the border along with 15,000 Lebanese soldiers.

"Israel will pull out once there is a reasonable level of forces there," Peretz said without say-

ing how many that would be.

As part of the effort to get international troops on the ground quickly, a five-ship Italian fleet departed for Lebanon on Tuesday carrying 800 soldiers.

Annan was to meet Wednesday with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, who plans to call for "the unconditional return of our captives in Lebanon," said his spokeswoman Miri Eisin, referring to reserve soldiers Ehud Goldwasser and Eldad Regev. A third soldier, Cpl. Gilad Shalit, was captured by Hamas-linked militants from an army post near the Gaza Strip on June 25.

The soldiers' families met with Annan and said he told them he had no new information about the captives, and there were no negotiations — not even secret ones — taking place.

"But the good news was that we got a personal pledge from the secretary general of the U.N. that he accepts the mission to get the three kidnapped soldiers home and that's a really big thing," Goldwasser's wife, Karnit, told Israel TV.

"(Hezbollah) must first of all give us a sign of life. (Annan) must act toward that. It's a moral demand that's basic in any negotiations," said Regev's brother, Benny.

Shalit's father, Noam, said he asked Annan to raise his son's issue when he goes to Damascus, where Hamas' leadership is based. Annan also was to travel to Iran; Iran and Syria are the main patrons of Hezbollah.

In Beirut, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, on a mission to secure the soldiers' release, said he was told they were alive during meetings in Damascus with Syrian President Bashar Assad and Khaled Mashaal, Hamas' political leader.

"The Hamas leadership says that the soldier they are holding is alive and well," Jackson said. "The president (Assad) believes that the two held somewhere by Hezbollah are alive," he added.

Annan visited U.N. peacekeepers in Naqoura, about 2 1/2 miles north of the Israeli border, where the base for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon is located.

He was briefed by French Maj. Gen. Alain Pellegrini, the UNIFIL commander, and other top officials, then reviewed an honor guard of U.N. troops in blue berets inside the U.N.'s white-walled compound.

He laid a wreath at a monument for nearly 300 peacekeepers killed in Lebanon since UNIFIL deployed there in 1978. Muslim and Christian clergymen said prayers and the U.N. chief stood in silence in front of portraits of those killed, including four UNIFIL members who died in a July 25 Israeli airstrike on their base in Khiam.

Annan told the troops their role was "misunderstood and criticized" and they were "never given credit for the wonderful things they have done and the sacrifices they have made."

IRAN

President challenges Bush

White House dismisses Ahmadinejad's request to debate world issues

Associated Press

TEHRAN — Iran's hard-line President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on Tuesday challenged President Bush to a televised debate, a proposal the White House immediately dismissed as a "diversion."

The challenge came during a freewheeling, 2 1/2-hour news conference and only two days before a U.N. Security Council ultimatum demanding Iran roll back its suspect nuclear program.

Ahmadinejad said no one can prevent Iran from pursuing what he called a peaceful nuclear program — not even U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who was expected to visit here Saturday.

"Mr. Annan, too, has to move within the framework of international regulations. No one has a special right or advantage," he said.

The U.N. Security Council has set Thursday as a deadline for Iran to suspend uranium enrichment — a process that can produce either fuel for a reactor or material for weapons. Iran has refused any immediate suspension, calling the deadline illegal, and instead this week offered a counterproposal that the United States and some European nations said fell short.

Ahmadinejad's latest show of defiance seemed to solidify the country's determination to snub the Security Council, following a string of war games and uncompromising public statements this month on the nuclear standoff. But whether the U.S. can muster enough support on the 15-nation council to impose economic or political sanctions remains in question.

In his criticism of the Security Council, Ahmadinejad singled out two of its permanent members with veto power — the United States and Britain — for what he called their failure to listen to the needs of other countries.

"The U.S. and Britain are the source of many tensions," he said. "At the Security Council, where they have to protect security, they enjoy the veto right. If anybody confronts them, there is no place to take complaints to."

"This (veto right) is the source of problems of the world," he said. "It is an insult to the dignity, independence, freedom and sovereignty of nations."

The United States' ambassador to the U.N., John Bolton, dismissed Ahmadinejad's remarks, and Britain's ambassador to the world body suggested, somewhat tongue-in-cheek, that the comments were mild compared to Ahmadinejad's past sharp rhetoric against Israel and others.

"Given some of the comments he makes, we should probably take that as a compliment," Ambassador Emyr Jones-Parry said.

After an opening statement, Ahmadinejad allowed Iranian reporters to ask questions. One Iranian journalist stood up and showered him with praise.

The local reporters were more casually dressed than the foreign press, who later were allowed to question him about a range of topics.

At one point, the president joked that he would call on a particular reporter because he and Ahmadinejad were wearing similar outfits.

In his challenge to Bush, Ahmadinejad said the debate should focus on "world issues



President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad defended Iran's right to develop a peaceful nuclear program at a press conference Tuesday.

and the ways of solving the problems of the international community."

He did not rule out the possibility of direct diplomatic talks with the United States, saying it could happen if unspecified conditions were met.

But he criticized the United States for "living in the dream of getting the Iranian nation back to 30 years ago," before the Islamic revolution.

Earlier this year, Ahmadinejad wrote a letter to Bush portraying the world as filled with an "ever-increasing global hatred of the American government."

Washington promptly dismissed the letter as irrelevant and not addressing the key issue of Iran's disputed nuclear program.

The Bush administration had a similar reaction Tuesday to the debate idea. White House spokeswoman Dana Perino said it was "just a diversion from the legitimate concerns that the international community, not just the U.S., has about Iran's behavior, from support for terrorism to pursuit of a nuclear weapons capability."

Iran offered last week to pursue negotiations on its nuclear program but declined to suspend uranium enrichment as a precondition to talks. The U.S. State Department described the Iranian proposal as serious but said it fell short of what Iran must do.

The Bush administration this week reaffirmed its intent to pursue U.N. sanctions against Iran if it defies the approaching deadline. But Russia, whose support for sanctions is essential, has publicly counseled patience with Iran — a possible signal of reluctance to go along with the U.S.

Divisions within the international community over Iran's nuclear program could hand a victory to Tehran, French Foreign Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy warned in an interview released Tuesday.

"The international community must not become divided, to cut itself in two. That would be a victory for the Iranians," Douste-Blazy told Euronews television.

Jones-Parry, the British ambas-

sador, said the Security Council will need until mid-September before acting on its threat to punish Iran if Tehran's leaders flout the Thursday deadline. He said the council would first need to receive a report from the U.N. nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, on Iran's compliance with the resolution.

Tehran has pursued a confrontational stance on the nuclear issue since Ahmadinejad's election last year.

He has often used the issue to encourage a sense of national pride among Iranians by standing up to the United States and other Western countries.

He and other Iranian officials repeatedly have said the country's nuclear program is intended solely to generate electricity, while

the United States and Europe contend Iran secretly aims to develop weapons.

Washington recently warned against a heavy-water plant that Iran opened over the weekend, fearing it could be used as a second track toward building a warhead.

Heavy water contains a heavier hydrogen particle that allows a nuclear reactor to run on the natural uranium mined by Iran, without undergoing the enrichment process. But the spent fuel from a heavy-water reactor can be reprocessed to extract plutonium for use in a bomb.

Large-scale military exercises also have been under way in Iran over the past month.

Iran says the weaponry is intended to defend itself against the possibility of a U.S. attack and has expressed worry about Israeli threats to destroy its nuclear facilities.

Despite intense disagreement over suspected nuclear weapons programs and terrorism, the Bush administration decided Tuesday to allow former Iranian President Mohammad Khatami to visit the United States.

Khatami plans to attend a U.N. conference Sept. 5-6 in New York to promote dialogue, then speak at the Washington National Cathedral on Sept. 7 on the role of Islam, Christianity and Judaism in shaping peace.

"The U.S. and Britain are the source of many tensions. At the Security Council, where they have to protect security, they enjoy the veto right. If anybody confronts them, there is no place to take complaints to."

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
Iranian President

Average scores fall for new SAT

Point drop for math, reading sections not significant, College Board says

Associated Press

The high school class of 2006 got stuck with a new, longer version of the SAT and didn't fare well on it. Average reading and math scores fell a total of seven points — the sharpest decline in 31 years.

Experts agreed the dip in combined math and critical reading scores on the college entrance exam was related to the new version of the test — but differed as to how. The updated exam, with a new writing section, also features more advanced math questions and replaces analogies with more reading comprehension.

Average reading scores fell from 508 to 503 and math scores fell from 520 to 518, the College Board announced Tuesday, with the changes hurting boys more than girls.

Boys' reading scores fell eight points, while girls' dropped just three. And girls scored 11 points better than boys on the new writing section. Boys' and girls' math score fell two points each to 536 and 502, respectively.

The College Board, which owns the exam, downplayed the drop, saying it amounts to a fraction of one question per exam. The board's explanation: about 3 percent fewer test-takers, out of 1.5 million, tried the exam a second time. Combined math and reading scores typically rise 30 points when a student retakes the test.

The College Board also insisted fatigue wasn't to blame. The new exam has been expanded from three hours to three hours, 45 minutes, and can take more than a full morning counting prep time and breaks. Some parents and fair-testing advocates predicted the longer exam would cause scores to decline, but the College Board said its research showed no drop-off in student performance as the test goes on.

Still, the results will spark debate over whether the College Board — also facing criticism over 4,000 incorrectly scored exams last year — was able to deliver a new test that is comparable to the old one.

The new scores also stand out because just two weeks ago the rival ACT exam reported its biggest score increase in 20 years.

"It does show how meaningless the test is as a measure of educational quality, that technical changes in the test can significantly alter the (scores)," said Bob Schaeffer, an SAT critic and public education director of the group FairTest. "It's the test, not the education, that's being measured."

Christine Parker, executive director of high school program development at test-prep company Princeton Review, said the College Board has always called even small increases important, so it's surprising to see it downplaying the decline.

"This is just the latest in a long line of bad news," she said. "They're in a very defensive posture."

The results were not a surprise in the academic community. The College Board had previously indicated scores would be down this year after numerous colleges began reporting the trend.

Average reading scores for black students rose 1 point from 433 to 434, while math scores fell two points from 431 to 429.

The College Board lists three categories for Hispanic students. Scores for Mexican-Americans rose three points overall, Puerto Ricans' fell two points and scores of students who identified themselves as "Other Hispanic" fell 11 points.

Girls' average overall score of 1506 out of a possible 2400 remains 26 points below boys' average, but the addition of the writing section and changes in the reading section helped them narrow the gap. Parker said the

shift in emphasis from vocabulary to reading comprehension favored girls.

"Interpreting language that's in front of them — girls do better at that," she said.

Many colleges said they would continue to accept scores from the old SAT as the new exam was rolled out. That prompted some students to take the test early in their junior year and not to try the new exam. Some also waited to take the exam until later in their senior year — perhaps to have more time to prepare — which may have precluded them from retesting.

Comparing only scores from students' first tests, math scores actually rose one point and critical reading scores fell three points, said College Board Vice President of Research Wayne Camara. That suggests the test may have been

marginally harder but that the decrease in retesting was a significant factor.

Another factor limiting retesting may be migration to the ACT. The number of SAT test-takers in this year's class declined slightly to about 1.47 million while the number of ACT test-takers, about 1.2 million, rose slightly. There is no way to determine how many students took both exams, but ACT numbers in traditional SAT states like Connecticut and New Jersey rose this year, suggesting more high-achieving students are trying both. Most colleges accept either.

"We definitely have seen more of that in the last few years," said Princeton Review's Parker.

The College Board also released information about the new writing section, which includes a 25-minute essay. The College Board said in 97 percent of essays, which are graded on a 12-point scale, the two readers agreed on the score or differed by just one point.

"It does show how meaningless the test is as a measure of educational quality, that technical changes in the test can significantly alter the (scores)."

Bob Schaeffer
director of public education
FairTest

Fugitive polygamous sect leader captured

Warren Jeffs allegedly arranged marriages of young girls, older men

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — The charismatic leader of a polygamous sect was captured during a traffic stop three months after being put on the FBI's Most Wanted List and faces charges he arranged marriages between underage girls and older men.

Warren Steed Jeffs, 50, was arrested without incident just outside Las Vegas late Monday after more than a year on the run, the FBI said. No weapons were found, but the 2007 red Cadillac Escalade he was riding in was filled with items including three wigs, 15 cell phones and tens of thousands of dollars in cash and gift cards, authorities said.

Jeffs leads the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a group that broke away from the Mormon church a century ago. He is said to have at least 40 wives and nearly 60 children.

Church dissidents say that underage marriages — some involving girls as young as 13 — escalated into the hundreds under his leadership, and that he broke apart families by casting out married men and reassigning their women and children to others.

Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard told KTAR-AM of Phoenix that Jeffs' arrest marks "the beginning of the end of ... the tyrannical rule of a small group of people over the practically 10,000 followers of the FLDS sect." He predicted it will lead more people to come forward with allegations of sexual abuse.

Most of the church's members live in Hildale, Utah, and adjoining Colorado City, Ariz., but authorities have said they believe Jeffs had "safe houses" in four other states — including Nevada — and Canada.

Jeffs' vehicle was stopped on Interstate 15 for having a temporary Colorado license tag that wasn't easily readable, FBI and Nevada Highway Patrol officials said.

John E. Lewis, special agent in charge of the FBI Phoenix division, said the trooper became suspicious when Jeffs identified himself as John Findley using a contact lens receipt from Florida as identification.

"That would commonly say to the average police officer that there is something wrong, so I am going to continue to probe just a little bit," Lewis said.

Jeffs confirmed his identity to an FBI agent who was called to the scene. He would not tell investigators where he had been hiding out, but he did say "that he was being subject to what he termed religious prosecutions," Lewis said.

Items inside the vehicle included \$54,000 in cash, gift cards totaling \$10,000, the cell phones and wigs, four laptop computers, a GPS device, a police scanner, and numerous unopened envelopes that were thought to contain more cash, Lewis said.

Jeffs was being held Tuesday in Clark County jail, awaiting a court hearing on a federal charge of unlawful flight to avoid prosecution.

The two people traveling with him, wife Naomi Jeffs and a brother, Isaac Steed Jeffs, both 32, were released and will not be charged, FBI agent Steven Martinez said. Martinez said Warren Jeffs initially used an alias, but Martinez would not disclose the name.

Jeffs is wanted in Utah and Arizona on charges of arranging two marriages between underage girls and older men. The charges include two counts of rape as an accomplice in Utah, with each count punishable by up to life in prison.

He had been on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted list since May, with a \$100,000 reward offered for information leading to his capture.

The FLDS Church split from the mainstream Mormon Church when the Mormons disavowed polygamy more than 100 years ago. Warren Jeffs took over the renegade sect in 2002 after the death of his 98-year-old father, Rulon Jeffs, who was said to have had 65 children by several women. Warren Jeffs took nearly all his father's widows as his own wives.

Jeffs has been called a dangerous extremist by those familiar with his church. Church dissidents said that while the sect has long practiced the custom of arranged marriages, young girls were rarely married off until Warren Jeffs came to power.

People expelled from the community said young men were sent away to avoid competition for brides. Older men were cast out for alleged disobedience, and their wives and children were reassigned by Jeffs to new husbands and fathers, the former members said.

"If this will bring an end to that, that will be a good thing," said Ward Jeffs, an older half-brother of Warren. "We're excited for the people down there, but we're very concerned about who might step up and take the leadership role."

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Common sows the seeds of dissent

There has been some question as to whom the artist Common was referring when he shouted "[Expletive] bush" during his recent performance at The Show. A debate has sprung up between two major schools of thought: Bush as United States President, and Bush as Plant.

For my part, I am at first inclined to believe that Common was indeed referring to President Bush. You see, Common is a socially conscious hip-hop artist. You can tell which artists are socially conscious because they profane the name of Bush at intervals during their concerts. It is common knowledge that any artist who does not in some way profane the name of the president during a performance is not socially conscious and actually hates the poor and downtrodden. (Third Eye Blind is, by the way, doomed to conservative hell.) So to make rude remarks about the president would serve the dual purpose of keeping his socially conscious image and letting the poor and downtrodden know just how deeply he really does care about them.

But perhaps this line of reasoning betrays my superficiality. Common is socially conscious, after all, and he doesn't say things simply because they rhyme, like other hip-hop artists. Anything he says could have a deeper meaning, especially when it comes to enigmatic statements like "[Expletive] bush."

This is where the second argument becomes compelling. You see, there are

those who would argue that Common was actually referring to the type of woody plant that grows outside of the Joyce Center. Common grew up in the inner city, which is built mostly of concrete; indeed, many of his songs are about how these surroundings have shaped his life and opinions. Perhaps that is why he was so angry last night — he was never exposed to foliage in his youth and is bitter that Notre Dame provides them for young people today.

But Common doesn't seem like a bitter kind of guy. It is more probable that his concern, if he did indeed refer to plants, was purely humanitarian. He assumes that most members of the Saint Mary's and Notre Dame communities grew up in affluent neighborhoods where bushes were plentiful, and, therefore, we do not care about the poor and downtrodden. Notre Dame must be a veritable bastion of social injustice because, after all, half of its students vote Republican.

The major hole in this Bush-as-plant argument, however, is why he chose to use that particular pejorative. Dictionary.com defines the expletive as, first, "to have sexual intercourse with," and, second, "slang, to treat unfairly or harshly."

The first definition fails on a purely empirical basis. Plants, as most people know, do not reproduce through sexual intercourse, but are instead aided by bumblebees and the wind in a process called fertilization.

The second definition makes a bit more sense, but if Common did intend it that way, he contradicted his entire message in a single phrase. From what I could gather from remarks during his show that I could both hear and process, he wants nothing more than to spread peace and harmony throughout the world. But maybe

Common is just not a "love thy enemies" kind of guy.

Or maybe he was referring to the president, but in an affectionate way. Everyone knows that profanity in hip-hop music can be as much a friendly jibe as an insult. Despite his objections to the president's foreign policy, he could in this instance have been extending the olive branch, as it were. Perhaps, by wishing the president the best of luck in his romantic endeavors, he was trying to be the better person — or else just relate to the president on his own level.

Whether it was Bush or the bushes, something Friday night made Common very emotional. Emotional enough to use the expletive that he did, a surprising choice given that non-violent resistance to tyranny and freedom of sexual expression are some of Common's central messages (the latter of which was made most clear to the audience during his performance).

Whatever Common's intended meaning, I am sorry to conclude that he was at fault. It's bad enough that his remark was, in either case, so out of context that it's hard to be sure what he was talking about. The President of the United States, at least, is capable of defending himself against the profanity of hip-hop artists.

But as I left the Joyce Center after the concert, I noticed that the Hibiscus syriacus looked distinctly wilted. As usual, the real victims that evening were those that had no voice.

Kimberley Burkart is a sophomore English major at Saint Mary's College. She can be contacted at kburka01@saintmarys.edu.

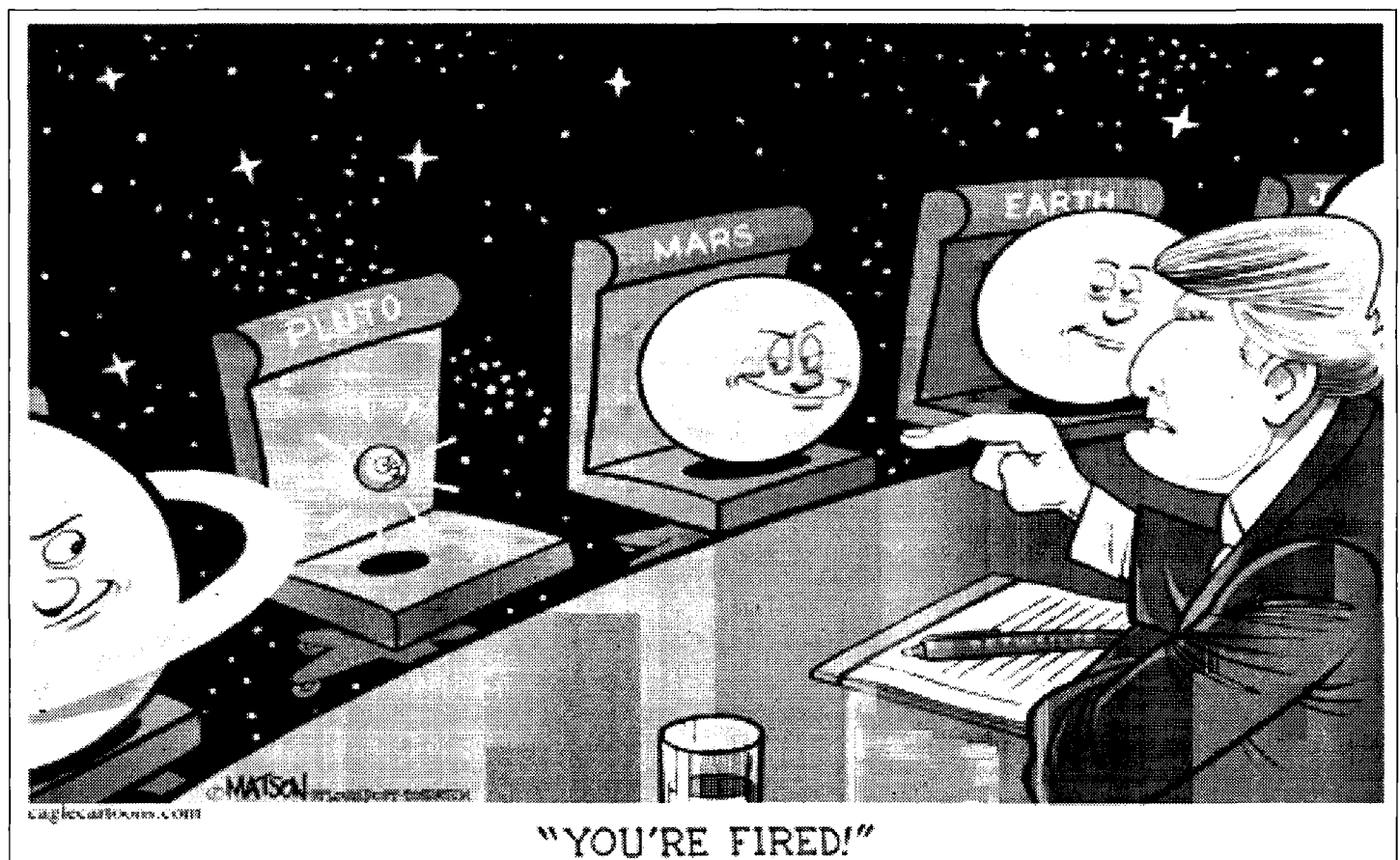
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Kimberley Burkart

It sounded better in my head

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I may not have gone where I intended to go, but I think I have ended up where I needed to be."

Douglas Adams
author

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Beware stereotyping

In Tuesday's Letter to the Editor, ("An invalid assumption," Aug. 29) Ryan Davidson is writing from the perspective of a dangerous ideology. It is clear from his language that he is prey to the "savage Arab" stereotype — that of an uncivilized people that needs to be punished, isolated and sent to bed without its supper.

When he states that countries such as the U.S., Canada, Britain and Germany cannot deal with the Middle East as we could deal with more "civilized nation states," Davidson propagates this harmful and unsophisticated Western-supremacist view of Arabs. The issues at stake here and the responses and behavior of both sides must be analyzed with attention paid to the real and often quite logical behavior of those who "hate us."

Try turning the tables for a minute, Davidson — here we are accusing "uncivilized" Iran of making nuclear weapons for unfriendly purposes when we are the only one who has actually dropped the bomb.

Clare Feeney
junior
off campus
Aug. 29

EDITORIAL CARTOON



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Looking back on Katrina anniversary

August 29, 2006 marked the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. As a New Orleans native and someone who was personally affected by one of the worst disasters to hit the United States, I was shocked that there was not more coverage in *The Observer*. The only mention of Hurricane Katrina was a reprint of an Associated Press article on Page 6 and a quote by Father Bill Lies in an article on CSC seminars. I found Lies' quote to be especially poignant: "With the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina upon us, these seminars give students the opportunities to ask questions we need to be asking, especially at a Catholic university." Clearly, Lies recognizes the importance of the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina and the response that should be evoked at a Catholic university. But what about everyone else? The question I would like to ask is "Does the Notre Dame community even care about the widespread destruction and despair in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast due to Hurricane Katrina?" I would hope that the answer is "Yes."

Having been at Notre Dame as a senior when the September 11 attacks occurred, I know that the Notre Dame community can be very compassionate and quick in responding to tragic events. However, I feel that the victims of Hurricane Katrina have been forgotten by Notre Dame and by the rest of the country. New Orleans is still in the very beginning stages of cleaning up. Things are by no means "back to normal." In fact, things will never be the way they were before the storm. So many people lost everything during Katrina. Those who survived the storm are still struggling to make it through each day. I feel like we have all seen and heard the news stories of the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina, but somehow we have grown complacent. Somehow we feel like it is not our problem. Somehow we feel like we are too far away to make a difference.

These are not the responses I am used to hearing from Notre Dame students. Notre Dame is not just another university. Notre Dame is a place where people care about each other and strive to help those near and far, being true to our Christian mission of service and love. Being part of the Notre Dame family means more than just being on campus in South Bend. Let us not forget that the Notre Dame family extends beyond all geographical boundaries. Right now the people in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast need our help. Let us not forget them.

Marie-Therese Mansfield
grad student
Howard Hall
Aug. 29

U-WIRE

Katrina revealed racism

A year ago, the realities of pervasive American poverty were revealed to the world. Impoverished, forsaken and homeless refugees were shown on global news outlets wading through flooded streets, maneuvering past floating corpses and hoping for rescue and aid.

Twaun Samuel

University of
Mississippi
Daily
Mississippian

Families were separated and lives were destroyed. And as often happens, the real tragedy of the hurricane came afterwards as the government and federal agencies passed the buck, shifting blame from cracks in one bureaucracy or the other while the media perpetuated discussions of the underlying race and class issues that still exist in the United States.

The victims of Hurricane Katrina were by no means all black. However, since the most indelible screen images were those of African Americans, they became the representatives of the entire incident. And because we live in a polarized society anyway, all things eventually become "black and white."

So, what are the race and class issues that exist today? Well, one has been stated above. Whenever some discuss race and class in our society, it is automatically executed in terms of "black and white." When we think in black and white, we put limitations and set standards in regards to either group's social status and capabilities. We hear "white," and we think majority, wealthy, educated and advanced. And when we hear "black," we think poor or ignorant. If you do not think in such terms, then count yourself among the more enlightened section of society. I certainly do not subscribe to these social antiquities and archaic paradigms. However, I have heard stereotypical

remarks made in reference to blacks' supposed abundant consumption of fried chicken and watermelon or to the effect of blacks lacking nautical skills. The majority of you have probably heard of such comments, or, if not, participated in their continued use.

This is another problem when discussing race and class. No one really wants to discuss these underlying racial issues. Minorities proclaim their disadvantaged social status due to hundreds of years of institutionalized segregation and unequal access to education. Instead of pondering these historical setbacks with any profound insight, the majority simply throws money at the minority in hopes that they will "catch up" while feeling "burdened" to help them.

Need convincing? Last year, during the hurricane coverage, some news media applied "searching for food" to photos of white victims breaking into stores, while they applied "looting" to photos of black victims searching for food. Upon visiting some hundreds of displaced victims in Houston, Barbara Bush said to a reporter, "...So many of these people were underprivileged anyway, so this is working out for them." Mrs. Bush was implying that being displaced was to the their benefit. However, it is unlikely that those individuals, who were separated from their families, and who had lost what little they had, felt relief and thanks in being shipped in a bus to Houston days after the storm.

One can never really comprehend poverty or class issues if one is isolated from the realities of the American social structure. What would anyone know about what it means to be "poor" if they themselves have not lived in poverty? This theory of the white man's burden is lacking in this respect. Aside from being self-inflicted, the supposed rationale

for the alleviation of this burden has proved problematic. You cannot fix poverty with money. That is, social welfare, minority scholarships, vouchers and so forth, while advantageous (thanks), only begin to tap the surface of the larger issue.

The most pervasive poverty has been generational. At the turn of the last century, many African Americans were still sharecropping. Actually, this generation now is merely the second generation of blacks having access to a diverse education and opportunity to compete in society. And the last generation had a rocky road attempting to obtain higher education at an institution of their choice. Ask an African American student at Ole Miss if their grandparents attended college, and you will probably find that the majority of that generation did not. While the privileged have enjoyed centuries of education and the passing and sharing of knowledge, some minority groups are only now beginning to start this cycle.

Suffice to say, this is why the discussion of race and class are interconnected. For a long time, one's race determined their class. And unfortunately, in some instances it still does. With the influx of Hispanics, the majority of them from Mexico, it would seem that there has not been sufficient societal maturation, as this "new" minority is the recipient of verbal abuse and class-ism from both the traditional white majority and the old black minority. I suppose "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" are not without their costs.

This column originally appeared in the August 29 edition of The Daily Mississippian, the daily publication at University of Mississippi.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.



SAMUEL L. JACKSON



B-LIST MOVIES



SAMUEL L. JACKSON FEATURE

'Star Wars' to 'Shaft' to 'Snakes'

By SEAN SWEANY
Assistant Scene Editor

A lifetime of fighting deadly snakes at 35,000 feet, serving as a Jedi Knight and living as a philosophical hit man would be enough for just about anybody — but not Samuel L. Jackson. These are just a few of the roles the hardest working actor in Hollywood has played during his long and famous career, and the 58-year old shows no signs of slowing down.

Since his debut in the 1972 film "Together for Days" as a student at Morehouse College, Jackson has acted in more than 95 movies and currently has no less than six projects in various phases of development. To date, his films have grossed more than \$3 billion at the worldwide box office, which is more than any other actor in the history of cinema.

Jackson's repertoire of films spans the entire spectrum of Hollywood genres, from sci-

ence fiction to comedy to drama. Some, like "xXx," "Shaft" and "Sphere," either received extremely poor reviews or made hardly any money at the box office.

However, roles in films such as "Unbreakable" and "A Time to Kill" demonstrate that Jackson is a legitimate actor who can easily impress critics in his performances. In 1994, Jackson earned an Oscar nomination for playing hitman Jules Winnfield opposite John Travolta in Quentin Tarantino's "Pulp Fiction."

This summer's cult hit "Snakes on a Plane" featured one of Jackson's most spirited and unique performances and brought him and his career into the limelight, thanks to his personal and dedicated marketing of the movie. The surge in popularity has left many people wondering exactly how Jackson has become the most successful actor in Hollywood history.

Jackson's bread and butter has been his ability to portray

stone cold, tough guy characters like Jules Winnfield in "Pulp Fiction" or even indomitable Ray Arnold in the original "Jurassic Park" film. In "Pulp Fiction," Jackson clearly flourished under Tarantino's direction and was able to deliver one of the most memorable screen performances of all time.

Success has coupled with critical acclaim when Jackson diverges from his usual path and tries his hand at vulnerable, emotional characters.

Examples include the fragile Elijah Price in M. Night Shyamalan's "Unbreakable" and unstable family man Doyle Gipsy in the 2002 thriller "Changing Lanes." Jackson turned in remarkable performances in both of these films that cemented him as one of the most versatile and capable actors in Hollywood.

Considering Jackson's wide slate of films, it may seem hard to identify the reason for his success. However, one need look no further than his

explanation for why he signed on for "Snakes on a Plane" to find out why he has succeeded.

He jumped on board, he said, simply because he loved the title so much.

Jackson's penchant for making movies that he personally enjoys translates into fun for audiences as much in "Snakes on a Plane" as it ever has before. This simple mantra of making fun films has propelled Jackson to the top of the film world and could keep him there for a long time.

The self dubbed "King of Cool" will undoubtedly continue to make films that appeal to him for a long time to come in the hopes that his films will continue to resonate with theatrical audiences.

It is not unimaginable that "Snakes on a Train" or "Snakes on a Boat" could slither into theaters sometime soon.

Contact Sean Sweany at ssweany@nd.edu

B-LIST MOVIE FEATURE

B-movies glorify best of the worst

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Assistant Scene Editor

Bela Lugosi and Boris Karloff can rest easy in their graves. Samuel L. Jackson has taken it upon himself to carry the torch of the B-list movie hero with the recent release of "Snakes on a Plane."

While "Snakes on a Plane" has created quite a buzz in pop-culture circles, it's not anything new. With its scary snakes and descriptive title, the movie falls into a long tradition that dates back to the Universal horror films of the 1930s. "Dracula," "The Wolf Man" and "The Creature from the Black Lagoon" were all films that told the audience all they needed to know in the title. "Dracula" has its vampire, "The Mummy" its mummy and "Frankenstein" its monster. The titles were simple, descriptive and easy to

remember. What if "The Wolf Man" had been titled "The Man Who Goes Through an Attitude Adjustment Every Time there is a Full Moon?" Not quite as catchy. B-movies don't need creative titles or creative stories for that matter. They need strange situations and simple problems.

"Snakes on a Plane" could have easily been "Snakes on a Boat" or — even more deadly — "Snakes on a Submarine." The writers of the film happened to decide on a plane as the setting for their film and gave it an appropriate title. Vampires, werewolves, creatures from black lagoons and snakes in places where they shouldn't be are all scary. They turn normal situations, whether an archeological dig at the pyramids or a routine plane ride, and turn them into situations with tension and conflict.

B-movies are also films that

know what they are, and "Snakes on a Plane" is no different. "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," the epitome of a cult film, knows that it is strange, different and not appealing to most people. The main character is a transvestite alien from the planet Transsexual in the galaxy of Transylvania. Mom and Dad are not going to see this film.

This is not to say that "Snakes on a Plane" appeals to the same crowd as "Rocky Horror." It does not. The similarity between these two films lies in the fact that they know what they are and do not pretend to be anything different.

The makers of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" know that it is a film that appeals to a sub-culture. The makers of "Snakes on a Plane" know they have made a film that is not a work of high art but is a film that no one has tried before. They have hired a well

known actor in Jackson who hams it up in his performance. Tim Curry made the exact same career move 30 years ago. Here is a man who graduated from Cambridge with combined honors and worked with the Royal Shakespeare Company dressing in drag.

Every era has its great cult film. The 1930s Universal horror films are still well remembered in Lugosi's eternal performance in the titular role of "Dracula." No fan of movies will look confused when told, "I want to suck your blaahd."

The 1950s had an expedition down the Amazon disrupted by a man-reptile from a certain lagoon, transvestite aliens were a hit in the 70s and this era has snakes ... on a plane. Ed Wood and Doctor X would have been proud.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroe1@nd.edu



MOVIE REVIEWS

Jackson's shtick saves 'Snakes'

By ERIN MCGINN
Assistant Scene Editor

The only way to really see "Snakes on a Plane" is with a lively audience. Without that experience, there is not much to redeem this highly predictable and low-caliber flick.

On its own, this Samuel L. Jackson horror-thriller is fairly uninspired, with some of the best parts of the film added in post-production after Internet fans clamored for the movie to be transformed from a PG-13 romp to an R-rated scare-fest. All of the hype surrounding this film seemed to suggest that maybe "Snakes"

wouldn't just be a bad film, but one of those truly treasured, enjoyably bad films that live on as campy classics.

The opening 20 minutes of the movie focus on the lame set-up leading to the anticipated excitement of snakes and planes. There are a lot of fairly pointless — but gorgeous — shots of Hawaii, surfing and motocross. Goofy motocross rider Sean (Nathan Phillips, "Wolf Creek") mistakenly witnesses a hit by crime lord Eddie Kim (Byron Lawson). To protect Sean from Kim's minions is FBI agent Neville Flynn, played perfectly by Jackson. Kim's ingenious plan (instead of possibly sniping poor Sean) is to have hundreds of deadly snakes smuggled onto a plane at a moment's notice in order to prevent Sean from testifying in Los Angeles. While not the most practical or logical set-up, it does lead to the desired snakes on a

plane combination.

Once the snakes are released (after the plane is well over the Pacific Ocean, of course) the predicted mayhem ensues as the snakes find themselves in every possible place on the plane. One of the most clever — or annoying — aspects of the film is the "snake vision," giving the audience the snakes' perspective on the action. More than 450 real snakes, as well as their computer-generated counterparts, come flying out of overhead compartments, toilets and bags to attack the terrified passengers.

The passengers themselves are as stereotypical as they come (a strategy that relieves the need to develop real characters), with everyone from the unattended minors to the guy who is afraid to fly, to the rude British guy and hot rap artist. The flight attendants follow this same pattern and include one on the verge of retirement, the young hot one and the smart (also hot) one.

The movie does have many genuinely frightening moments balanced out by excellent support work from the cast, which includes former SNL cast member David Koechner and current member Kenan Thompson.

Samuel L. Jackson does a great job playing an FBI agent playing Samuel L. Jackson. He gives quotable anti-snake speeches and drops swear-words like candy to children. Although he has seen better roles, no one else besides Jackson would be taken remotely seriously attacking snakes with his bare hands.

Director David R. Ellis does what he can with the material and, in the end, the movie is about what can be expected from a bunch of snakes on a plane. The joy of the movie, however, doesn't come from the film itself — it comes from experiencing the "Snakes on a Plane" phenomenon.

Contact Erin McGinn at emcginn@nd.edu

Snakes on a Plane



Director: David R. Ellis
Writer: John C. Heffernan
Starring: Samuel L. Jackson, Nathan Phillips and Byron Lawson

By BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Editor

Every once in a while, a film comes along so stunning that it boggles the senses, rekindles the magic of the cinema and restores faith in mankind. "Snakes on a Plane" is such a film. Words do it no justice. The pictures adorning review does it no justice. "Snakes on a Plane" is an experience, one to be savored in all of its awe-inspiring glory. It is as funny as "Annie Hall," as epic as "Braveheart" and as moving as "On Golden Pond" ... but with snakes.

As the immortal Indiana Jones once philosophically mused, "Snakes ... why did it have to be snakes?" The answer? Samuel L. Jackson.

Jackson stars as himself kicking butt and taking names (though his character has the much wussier moniker of Neville Flynn). Flynn has been assigned to protect Sean Jones (Nathan Phillips, nailing the young David Hasselhoff look perfectly), a Hawaii surfer dude who witnessed a murder and is set to testify against gangster Eddie Kim (Byron

Ellis) in Los Angeles. Unfortunately, Kim has different plans, which he sets into motion by putting snakes on the plane that is to take Flynn and Jones to California.

Jackson — best remembered as the engineer who says "hold onto your butts" in "Jurassic Park" — turns in the most complex, multi-faceted performance of his career. Watching his frustration as he attempts to ward off snakes with first a taser, then a spork is pure cinematic magic, the perfect blend of character and action. It is obvious that Jackson has come a long way as an actor, and his Methodesque performance has the gravitas of Brando in "On the Waterfront," the conviction of Peck in "To Kill a Mockingbird" and the charisma of Jimmy Stewart in "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" ... but with snakes.

Above all, "Snakes on a Plane" is classy. Stunning cinematic techniques like the green-tinted "snake vision" and amazingly rendered computer-generated snakes are well-utilized assets, though they don't detract from the plot and characterization.

While some of the dialogue and violence may initially appear crude, it becomes increasingly obvious that director David R. Ellis is building on a foundation laid by such luminaries as Mamet, Tarantino and Peckinpah ... but with snakes. The artistic mastery of direction and design elevates the already high-concept material into something far more transcendent, which is itself bolstered by the presence of Jackson.

Symbolism abounds throughout the picture. Consider the moment when the prissy white American rides the kickboxing Asian across the plane, or when the stuffy British guy gets his head bitten off. Obviously, the true meaning of these scenes only become clear upon closer, more in-depth analysis. Once fully scrutinized, however, their socio-political allegorical significance becomes evident.

"Snakes on a Plane" is also about characters overcoming the odds. The rapper 3 G's has a phobia of germs, which he overcomes when he befriends a little kid. One of the members of his posse is called

Snakes on a Plane



upon to save the plane despite his relative youth and inexperience. These moments warm the heart and illustrate the good-natured undercurrent that runs just below the surface of the film's admittedly complicated text.

It might not be a stretch calling "Snakes on a Plane" The Greatest Film of All Time. So few pictures are so powerful, inspiring and well crafted. Others might argue for films like Renoir's "The Rules of the Game," Coppola's "The Godfather," Scorsese's "Raging Bull" or Lean's "Lawrence of Arabia." But none of those films have snakes, and thus, none can hold a candle to the masterful majesty of what will undoubtedly be considered the crowning opus of Jackson's storied career.

After all, it's no coincidence that "Snakes on a Plane" rhymes with "Citizen Kane."

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu



MOVIE REVIEW

'Accepted' unimpressive, worthy of rejection

By ERIN MCGINN
Assistant Scene Editor

While "Accepted" has a great deal of promise, the final product comes nowhere close to reaching its potential. Like films of the high school genre, movies about colleges and college students are generally successful, since it is easy to relate to the characters and their predicaments.

"Accepted" follows the long line of "lovable losers in college" movies stretching from the generation-defining "Animal House" to "Revenge of the Nerds" to 2003's "Old School."

Justin Long ("Dodgeball") stars in his first leading role as Bartleby Gaines, a loser who is rejected from every college to which he applies. No school in the nation will take him, and apparently local community colleges are not an option. With the help of his friends, he decides — for some unknown and unexplained reason — to convert an abandoned mental institution into the fictitious South Harmon Institute of Technology (just in case the significance of the initials is lost, the movie points them out over and over again).

Because Bartleby has the most gullible parents in the world (what parents hand their child a check for

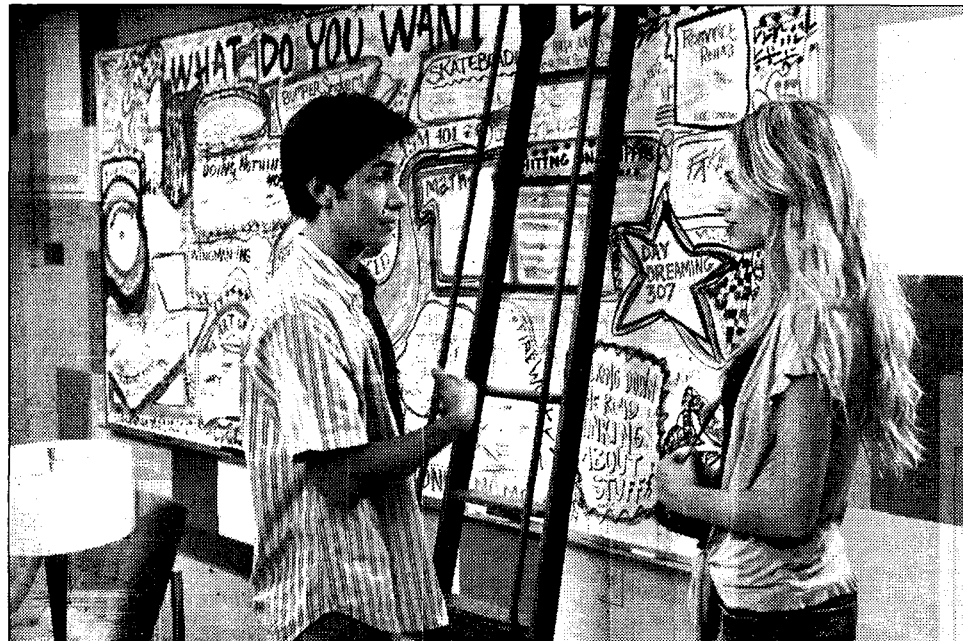
\$10,000 to cover his tuition?), he is successful in starting the college that was supposed to be for him and his friends alone.

However, due to a fluke on the subsequently created fake Web site, thousands of accepted students — also rejected from every real college — show up for orientation. As a fellow victim of rejection, Bartleby can't bring himself to shatter their dreams, so he proclaims that South Harmon will be a college for the students, run by the students.

In an "Old School"-esque turn of events, Bartleby and his friends eventually have to fight for the survival of their fake university, which leads to the predictable climax and conclusion of the picture.

Long is likable in his first leading role, but he doesn't get the chance to fully demonstrate the sarcastic edge that should define character. His character is reminiscent of Vince Vaughn roles, and if given the right parts, he could be shaped into an actor akin to Vaughn.

Much like Long, comedian and "The Daily Show" regular Lewis Black is kept under tight reign as the make-believe dean. While Black is left with a few inoffensive rants, it's easy to see his acting potential. The other characters are left undeveloped and, for the most



South Harmon Institute of Technology students Bartleby (Justin Long) and Monica (Blake Lively) discuss the curriculum in Steve Pink's "Accepted."

part, completely unentertaining.

At the helm is screenwriter-turned-director Steve Pink. While "Accepted" marks his first film as a director, previous writing credits include the John Cusack classics "High Fidelity" (2000) and "Grosse Pointe Blank" (1997). Had Pink and the other writers of those off-beat comedies developed "Accepted," the result probably would have been a much sharper, cleverer and more interesting film.

Unfortunately, Pink had no hand in the script for "Accepted," which was

written by three newcomers who definitely do not receive high marks for this product.

With a tighter script, more capable direction and better acting from the supporting cast, "Accepted" could have joined the honor roll of great and defining college films. Instead, it falls flat with few redeeming moments. "Accepted" is instantly forgettable and easily rejected.

Contact Erin McGinn at
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DPAC SPOTLIGHT

Brando shines in classic 'Waterfront' film

By BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Editor

Late in Elia Kazan's "On the Waterfront," Terry Malloy (Marlon Brando) gets into a car where his brother is waiting for him with orders to kill.

"You don't understand," Malloy pleads. "I coulda had class. I coulda been a contender. I coulda been somebody, instead of a bum, which is what I am. Let's face it. It was you, Charley."

The monologue, one of the most famous in all of cinema, is the defining moment of the defining film for both its director and its star. The Best Picture winner of 1954, "On the Waterfront" invigorated the career of both Kazan and Brando and remains one of the most enduring pictures of its time. Despite its relatively dated social concerns, the film paints an accurate and interesting portrait of 1950s corruption and its effects on blue-collar workers.

"On the Waterfront" follows Terry Malloy (Brando), a one-time boxer turned dockworker who ultimately fights against the Mob-controlled union led by Johnny Friendly (Lee J. Cobb). Malloy is initially reluctant to do the right thing, but upon meeting Edie (Eva Marie Saint), the sister of one of Friendly's victims, he comes around and decides to testify against Friendly — a potentially fatal decision.

The film was semi-autobiographical for Kazan, who worked with the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUAC) in anti-Communist McCarthyism. Unfortunately, his self-righteousness is a bit problematic for the film, which draws its morality in black-and-white as starkly defined as Boris Kaufman's monochromatic cinematography.

Controversy would follow Kazan throughout his career, which makes separating his cinematic work from his

political life problematic. Taken on its own terms, however, "On the Waterfront" succeeds admirably, though the subtext of Kazan's self-vindication is evident throughout.

Kazan directs with more force and vigor than ever in his career, surpassing

even the narrative clarity he brought to Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire" (1951).

At the center of it all is Brando. It might be hyperbole to claim that he revolutionized acting — but not by much. The Method style of acting he brought to Malloy was a revelation, influencing actors for generations to come.

"On the Waterfront" is easily among the great performances of all time, even if elements of it seem outdated by today's standards. The acting across-the-board is excellent, from Saint's sensitive Edie to Cobb's slimy union boss Johnny Friendly.

The music by "West Side Story" composer Leonard Bernstein is also memo-



Terry Malloy (Marlon Brando) and Edie (Eva Marie Saint) share a quiet moment in Elia Kazan's classic 1954 Best Picture winner "On the Waterfront."

orable, anchored by a wistful, flute-driven love theme. Bernstein's only film score punctuates the on-screen action in a way far different than most scores, intentionally running against the realism of the film rather than complementing it. This creative choice affects some of the scenes drastically, though it doesn't necessarily reduce the gravitas of any crucial scenes.

The big winner at the 1954 Oscars, "On the Waterfront" took home statuettes for Best Picture, Best Director (Kazan), Best Adapted Screenplay (Schulberg), Best Actor (Brando), Best Supporting Actress (Saint), Best

Cinematography (Kaufman), Best Art Direction (Richard Day) and Best Editing (Gene Milford).

More recently, it was ranked by The American Film Institute as the eighth greatest film of all time, a testament to its longevity and timelessness.

"On the Waterfront," one of the classics of American cinema, will be screened on Saturday at 3 p.m. in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center as part of the PAC Classic 100.

Contact Brian Doxtader at
bdoxtade@nd.edu

Accepted



Director: Steve Pink
Writers: Bill Collage, Adam Cooper and Mark Perez
Starring: Justin Long, Blake Lively and Lewis Black

On the Waterfront



Starring: Marlon Brando
When: Saturday, Sept. 2 at 3 p.m.
Where: The Browning Cinema, DPAC

MLB

Dempster blows lead, walks in winning run

Sabathia allows four hits in league-leading fifth complete game as Cleveland comes from behind to beat Toronto

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Jose Bautista's bases-loaded walk scored Jose Castillo to cap a two-run, 11th-inning rally, and the Pittsburgh Pirates handed the Chicago Cubs their fifth consecutive loss, 7-6 Tuesday night.

Derrek Lee's RBI single gave the Cubs a 6-5 lead in the top of the inning, but closer Ryan Dempster couldn't protect it.

With one out, pinch-hitter Humberto Cota singled down the left-field line and was replaced by pinch-runner Ian Snell. Castillo followed with a single up the middle before Joe Randa grounded to shortstop Ronny Cedeno.

His throw was mishandled by second baseman Freddie Bynum, allowing Snell to score. Dempster (1-6) intentionally walked Chris Duffy before Bautista's game-winning base on balls.

Xavier Nady had three hits and scored two runs for Pittsburgh (52-81), which avoided clinching its 14th consecutive losing season.

Lee was 3-for-6, Aramis Ramirez was on base six times — scoring three runs — and Michael Barrett and Matt Murton each had two hits for Chicago, which has lost nine of 10.

Matt Capps (5-1) got out of a two-on, one-out situation in the 11th to earn the win.

Pittsburgh starter Paul Maholm's wildness cost him in the second. He walked the bases loaded and then threw a run-scoring wild pitch while Cubs pitcher Carlos Zambrano was batting.

Juan Pierre followed with a grounder to short that scored Angel Pagan and gave Chicago a 2-0 lead.

Murton gave the Cubs a three-run advantage when he singled home Aramis Ramirez with two outs in the third.

The Cubs' fourth run scored when Murton reached on an infield single with Ramirez on second. First baseman Ryan

Doumit misplayed the throw from third baseman Jose Bautista, allowing Ramirez to score.

Zambrano didn't allow a baserunner in the first four innings but the Pirates got back into the game in the fifth by scoring three runs.

Nady doubled to right and, one out later four consecutive Pirates reached base. Doumit singled, Castillo reached on a throwing error by Zambrano, pinch-hitter Jeromy Burnitz singled off the high wall in right, and Duffy lined a single to left.

Castillo, Burnitz and Duffy all had RBIs in the inning.

Nady scored the tying run in the sixth on another error by Zambrano. With Nady at second and Ronny Paulino at first, Doumit grounded to first. While trying to complete a double play, the return throw from shortstop Ryan Theriot was misplayed by Zambrano, allowing Nady to score the tying run.

Michael Barrett's two-out double off Marty McLeary scored Aramis Ramirez to give the Cubs a brief lead in the seventh.

Cleveland 5, Toronto 2

C.C. Sabathia pitched his major league-leading fifth complete game and Travis Hafner hit his 40th homer, helping the Cleveland Indians beat the Toronto Blue Jays Tuesday night.

Sabathia (10-8) allowed two runs and four hits as he worked at least seven innings for the 10th time in his last 11 starts since July 7. The left-hander struck out six without a walk to earn consecutive victories for the first time since winning three in a row from May 19-30.

Cleveland scored three times in the seventh off Brandon League (0-2) to take a 4-2 lead and went on to its 15th win in 20 games since Aug. 9.

Blue Jays starter Gustavo Chacin gave up one run and two hits over 5 1-3 innings before leaving with a cramp in the index finger on his pitching hand. The left-hander was mak-



Aramis Ramirez slides past Pittsburgh catcher Ronny Paulino in the top of the third inning Tuesday. The Pirates won 7-6 in the eleventh inning.

ing his second start since coming off the disabled list.

Chacin was sidelined from June 10 to Aug. 23 with a strained left elbow and lasted only 1 1-3 innings last Wednesday in a 6-0 loss to Oakland.

Hafner hit his 40th homer with two outs in the first to put Cleveland ahead. The 423-foot shot to left-center made him the seventh player in Indians history to reach the milestone and first since Jim Thome hit a team-record 52 homers in 2002.

League hit Ryan Garko with a pitch to open the decisive seventh. Jhonny Peralta then grounded a single to right and pinch-hitter Joe Inglett was safe when first baseman Lyle Overbay misplayed his sacrifice bunt for an error, loading the bases.

Andy Marte singled between third and shortstop. Shortstop John McDonald made a diving stop, but his throw to second was too late to get the speedy Inglett as Garko scored to tie it

at 2.

Grady Sizemore followed with a sacrifice fly to put Cleveland ahead and Jason Michaels added an RBI double for a 4-2 lead.

Inglett drove in a run with a grounder in the eighth to make it 5-2.

Philadelphia 10 Washington 6

Ryan Howard tied Philadelphia's single-season record with his major league-leading 48th home run Tuesday night, helping the Phillies to a win over the Washington Nationals.

Howard hit a three-run shot in the sixth inning off reliever Kevin Gryboski, equaling the franchise mark set by Hall of Fame third baseman Mike Schmidt in 1980 — when the Phillies won their only World Series championship.

Brett Myers (10-6) allowed three runs in six innings for the Phillies, who began the day a game behind NL wild-card leader Cincinnati. The right-han-

der yielded eight hits while striking out seven.

Mike Lieberthal hit a two-run homer off Nationals starter Tony Armas (8-10), and Jimmy Rollins and Abraham Nunez had three hits apiece. Pat Burrell added two hits and two RBIs.

Howard finished 2-for-3 with two walks. His three RBIs gave him a major league-best 125 for the year.

Alfonso Soriano hit his 42nd home run for Washington, which lost its third straight and eighth in nine games. Armas lasted 3 1-3 innings, allowing five runs and eight hits.

Arthur Rhodes struck out Jose Vidro with runners on second and third for his fourth save.

The Phillies scored twice in the first inning, when Rollins and Shane Victorino opened the game with back-to-back singles and scored on Burrell's two-run single. Philadelphia added three more in the fourth on Lieberthal's home run and an RBI double by Rollins, which chased Armas.

CLASSIFIEDS

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NFL

Palmer not satisfied with return to the field

Despite scorching Green Bay for three first-half touchdown passes, Cincinnati QB found room for improvement

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Instead of getting caught up in those three perfect touchdown passes, Carson Palmer chose to dwell on what went wrong.

A few things were a little bit off during his return from a devastating knee injury. He missed his mark on a pass or two. He didn't make the right decision on every play. There was a little bit of rust on his game.

"I definitely have a long way to go to get where I need to be," he said.

While Palmer looked at areas of improvement after the Cincinnati Bengals' 48-17 preseason victory over the Green Bay Packers on Monday night, everyone else saw the big picture.

From that viewpoint, these Bengals are contenders again.

"We are picking up from where we left off last year," receiver Chad Johnson said. "Some say that what we did last year really doesn't matter anymore, but we are picking up from right where we left off last year."

They ended last season as AFC North champions, losing a first-round playoff game at Paul Brown Stadium against the Pittsburgh Steelers. On Palmer's

first pass of that game, Kimo von Oelhoffen drove his shoulder into Palmer's left knee, shredding two ligaments and dislocating his knee cap.

The Bengals' chances of contending for another title depended upon how Palmer's rehab went and how long it took. He sat out the first two preseason games, acknowledging that he wasn't ready to try to reclaim his job.

After playing less than one half on Monday night, the job was his.

A crowd of 65,614 fans — the biggest ever for a preseason game in Cincinnati — went silent whenever Palmer got hit or took off running. It cheered every time he got up. And, it marveled at how well he played. Palmer went 9-of-14 overall for 140 yards, three touchdowns and a passer rating of 136.9 — about as good as it can get.

By halftime, the Bengals had a 34-7 lead and their playoff swag-back, along with their starting quarterback.

"I'm sure he answered all the critics' questions and all the doubts that everyone had in their minds," said Johnson, who didn't catch a pass. "We scored 34 in the first half. That is ridiculous. Imagine if we had the first team

play the entire game. I need not say more."

Even coach Marvin Lewis hinted that Palmer had done better than expected — a rare concession by a coach who likes to give the impression that he's on top of everything involving his team.

"I can't say I'm all that surprised," Lewis said at halftime. "Maybe he was a little sharper than you'd expect, but we've seen him working every day for six months."

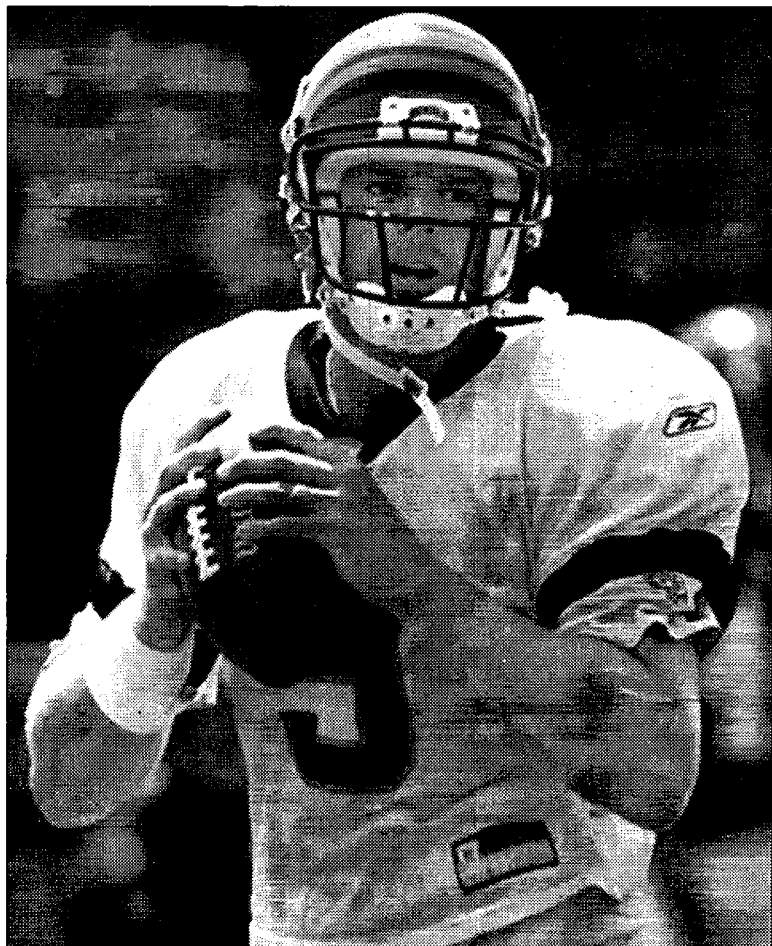
Afterward, Lewis named him the starting quarterback for the season opener Sept. 10 in Kansas City.

Perhaps the biggest test for Palmer was getting hit for the first time since his injury, which came on a 66-yard completion to Chris Henry. In an interesting bit of symmetry, his first completion on Monday also went to Henry. And, Palmer got hit again right after he released it.

This time, Green Bay's Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila hit him around the waist and took him down. The lineman's 6-foot-4, 250-pound body landed on top of Palmer, a tame but telling hit.

Concerned teammates immediately checked on him.

"I said, 'How do you feel?' He said, 'I feel great,'" receiver T.J. Houshmandzadeh said.



Bengals quarterback Carson Palmer drops back to pass at practice Aug. 1. AP

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AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, August 30, 2006

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Preseason NFL

AFC East

| team | record | perc. | PF | PA |
|-------------|--------|-------|----|----|
| New England | 2-1 | .667 | 94 | 29 |
| Miami | 1-2 | .333 | 49 | 60 |
| NY Jets | 1-2 | .333 | 37 | 43 |
| Buffalo | 0-3 | .000 | 61 | 78 |

AFC North

| team | record | perc. | PF | PA |
|------------|--------|-------|-----|----|
| Cincinnati | 3-0 | 1.000 | 111 | 51 |
| Cleveland | 2-1 | .667 | 47 | 53 |
| Baltimore | 1-2 | .333 | 43 | 57 |
| Pittsburgh | 0-3 | .000 | 30 | 54 |

AFC South

| team | record | perc. | PF | PA |
|--------------|--------|-------|----|----|
| Houston | 2-1 | .764 | 65 | 51 |
| Jacksonville | 2-1 | .654 | 70 | 61 |
| Indianapolis | 1-2 | .543 | 61 | 63 |
| Tennessee | 0-3 | .432 | 32 | 74 |

AFC West

| team | record | perc. | PF | PA |
|-------------|--------|-------|----|----|
| Oakland | 4-0 | 1.000 | 76 | 33 |
| Denver | 2-1 | .667 | 65 | 44 |
| San Diego | 2-1 | .667 | 51 | 47 |
| Kansas City | 1-2 | .333 | 30 | 53 |

NFC East

| team | record | perc. | PF | PA |
|--------------|--------|-------|----|----|
| Dallas | 3-0 | 1.000 | 60 | 17 |
| NY Giants | 3-0 | 1.000 | 47 | 23 |
| Philadelphia | 2-2 | .500 | 56 | 50 |
| Washington | 0-3 | .000 | 17 | 87 |

NFC North

| team | record | perc. | PF | PA |
|-----------|--------|-------|----|----|
| Minnesota | 2-1 | .667 | 60 | 33 |
| Chicago | 1-2 | .333 | 54 | 54 |
| Detroit | 1-2 | .333 | 39 | 54 |
| Green Bay | 1-2 | .333 | 58 | 75 |

NFC South

| team | record | perc. | PF | PA |
|-------------|--------|-------|----|----|
| Carolina | 3-0 | 1.000 | 50 | 33 |
| Atlanta | 2-1 | .667 | 56 | 67 |
| New Orleans | 1-2 | .333 | 40 | 73 |
| Tampa Bay | 1-2 | .333 | 44 | 45 |

NFC West

| team | record | perc. | PF | PA |
|---------------|--------|-------|----|----|
| Arizona | 2-1 | .667 | 47 | 59 |
| San Francisco | 1-2 | .333 | 42 | 54 |
| Seattle | 1-2 | .333 | 53 | 61 |
| St. Louis | 1-2 | .333 | 51 | 60 |

NSCAA/adidas Men's Soccer Top 20

| | team | record |
|----|----------------------|--------|
| 1 | Maryland | 19-4-2 |
| 2 | Connecticut | 16-3-2 |
| 3 | New Mexico | 18-2-3 |
| 4 | Virginia | 12-5-3 |
| 5 | North Carolina | 17-4-3 |
| 6 | Clemson | 15-6-3 |
| 7 | SMU | 14-6-3 |
| 8 | Creighton | 15-5-3 |
| 9 | Akron | 18-1-4 |
| 10 | UCLA | 12-5-3 |
| 11 | California | 14-4-3 |
| 12 | Indiana | 13-6-6 |
| 13 | Penn State | 13-7-2 |
| 14 | Duke | 12-5-3 |
| 15 | NOTRE DAME | 12-8-3 |
| 16 | Wake Forest | 13-8-2 |
| 17 | St. John's | 11-6-5 |
| 18 | South Florida | 13-6-2 |
| 19 | Cal State Northridge | 15-4-3 |
| 20 | Santa Clara | 13-6-3 |

WNBA



Cheryl Ford, second from left, and her teammates share a laugh before practice at the Palace in Auburn Hills, Mich., Tuesday. The Shock will meet the Sacramento Monarchs in the WNBA finals Wednesday.

Ford leads Shock back to WNBA Finals

Associated Press

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Cheryl Ford led the Detroit Shock back to the WNBA finals with a tenacious style that is reminiscent of her dad, 14-time NBA All-Star Karl Malone. That is all well and good, but Ford is not fond of such comparisons. "Like I said before, I'm just trying to do my own thing, make my own name," Ford said Tuesday after practice at The Palace.

The Shock will face the defending champion Sacramento Monarchs in the best-of-five finals that begin Wednesday night.

Malone sat courtside and watched his daughter help Detroit win the WNBA title three years ago, during her rookie season. He covered his eyes as the power forward sank four key free throws in the final minute of the decisive third game against Los Angeles, then embraced her when it was over.

With all the numbers and accolades Malone garnered during his career, Shock coach Bill Laimbeer said Ford can be even better than her father.

"Cheryl Ford arguably has been our most valuable player all year long. Her rebounding has been

so consistent, she leads the league in rebounding," Laimbeer said. "Her inside presence, being able to score has been more than we expected this year."

Much like the 2003 title team, Laimbeer's squad rolled through these play-offs with a dominating inside game, anchored by Ford. She is also averaging 11.8 rebounds in the playoffs.

"She's a beast," said teammate Katie Smith, an All-Star guard. "The sky is the limit for her. It's fun to be on the floor with somebody who competes, especially rebounding. You don't have to worry about the rebounding too much

because she can corral most of those."

But star forward Swin Cash knows Ford can't do it alone.

"It's going to be up to our guards, myself and Ruth (Riley) to really help Cheryl and not have her getting 30 rebounds and us getting like one or two," she said. "We have to collectively rebound as a group."

Sacramento hasn't lost a game in these playoffs, eliminating Houston and Los Angeles.

"We have to be mentally tough," Ford said. "If we let them knock us off focus, then boy we're in for a long series."

IN BRIEF

Martin placed on PUP list, Pennington named starter

NEW YORK — Curtis Martin will miss at least the first six weeks of the season. It could be the end of the 33-year-old running back's career.

The NFL's No. 4 career rusher, who underwent knee surgery last December, was placed by the New York Jets on the regular-season physically unable to perform list on Tuesday. That means he will miss the first six weeks and the Jets will have 21 days to decide whether to activate him.

The Jets also announced that Chad Pennington is their starting quarterback. Pennington, who has undergone shoulder surgery for two straight years, had been the starting QB throughout the preseason. But first-year coach Eric Mangini had not designated a starter from among Pennington, Patrick Ramsey, Brooks Bollinger and rookie Kellen Clemens.

Pacers sign guard, two assistant coaches

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Pacers have signed guard Jimmie "Snap" Hunter and assistant coaches Johnny Davis and Leonard Perry.

Hunter, a 6-foot-4 guard, played last season with the Gary Steelheads of the CBA and led the league with 27.6 points a game. In March, he signed with Etoesa Alicante of the Spanish ACB, where he averaged 15.3 points and 3.7 rebounds in 12 games.

Davis played for Indiana during 1978-82 and averaged 12.9 points and 4.5 assists during a 10-year NBA career. He has been a head coach twice, going 42-111 in stints with Philadelphia and Orlando, and was an assistant with the Minnesota Timberwolves last season.

Perry had been in college coaching since 1994 and is taking his first NBA job. He went 48-97 in five years as the head coach at Idaho before being fired in March following a 4-25 season.

Hoosiers enter season loaded at running back

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Marcus Thigpen has the breakaway speed Indiana coach Terry Hooppner craves, and Demetrius McCray offers the elusiveness a college running back needs to stay healthy.

After assessing the duo for the past month in practice, Hooppner has finally made a decision: He'll play both in Saturday's season-opener against Western Michigan.

If Hooppner wanted a primary runner, he certainly didn't lend it any credence.

Rather, the Hoosiers coach plans on using four backs this weekend — Thigpen, McCray, Bryan Payton and Josiah Sears.

The running back competition was the most-watched duel of spring practice, but when it didn't produce a clear-cut winner, the battle was rekindled in August. Again, neither pulled away in the competition, which now continues.

around the dial

TENNIS

U.S. Open, 11 a.m., USA

MLB

Detroit at New York Yankees, 7:05 p.m., ESPN

NCAA FOOTBALL

Suspension ends for Purdue starter

*Boilermaker's return
lineman Uche Nwaneri
after fight last year*

Associated Press

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Uche Nwaneri's return to Purdue's offensive line could turn the unit into one of the Big Ten's best.

After starting every game at left guard two years ago, Nwaneri was suspended and missed last season because of a fight with then-teammate Ryan Noblet. Nwaneri is back for the senior year he expected to have last year, starting Saturday against Indiana State.

"It's hard not to be able to do something you've been doing your whole life," he said. "It gave me a chance to contemplate things I need to accomplish, gave me a little more focus on things I need to do."

Nwaneri had an emergency appendectomy last week, but still is listed No. 1 on the depth chart. Coach Joe Tiller hopes Nwaneri will be ready for Saturday's game.

"Certainly, when he's in there, we're a better offensive line," Tiller said.

All five starting offensive linemen have at least 11 career starts. Purdue's media guide lists four all-Big Ten candidates for the Boilermakers — and three are linemen. Tackle Mike Otto has 36 career starts, more

than any player on the team. Guard Jordan Grimes has 12 career starts and tackle Sean Sester has 11.

Robbie Powell started 11 games in Nwaneri's place at left guard last season and has since moved to center. He won the team's Pit Bull Award for his play during the spring. Quarterback Curtis Painter said Powell has adjusted well and has done a good job of keeping the line working together.

Purdue's offense ranked 25th nationally with 428.5 yards a game last season. Now, Nwaneri brings his athletic ability and improved strength to a unit that allowed nine sacks last season, second-fewest in the Big Ten.

"I just want to add to it," he said. "I don't want to say that I'm going to make the line the best line there is, but we're all going to work hard to make this the best line it can possibly be."

He said he's proud of the way the unit played last season, but was unhappy with the fact that Purdue went 5-6 last season and missed a bowl game for the first time since Tiller became coach in 1997.

"It's never fun to sit there and watch your team lose and have problems like we did, but we're past that now."

Tiller said Nwaneri weighs 318 pounds and is the most solid he's been. Tiller said Nwaneri's commitment to getting into shape has earned respect from his teammates.

TENNIS

Showers delay U.S. Open

Rainy day in New York leads to over 50 matches being postponed

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Amelie Mauresmo wiped raindrops from her face and Lleyton Hewitt nearly skidded into a split as bad weather played havoc with the U.S. Open on a stop-and-go Tuesday.

More than 50 matches were postponed, including Maria Sharapova's opener. Showers and a shaky forecast pushed back a remembrance of Hurricane Katrina on the one-year anniversary to Wednesday.

The start of play was delayed 3 1/2 hours by rain, giving sleepy-eyed fans extra time to recover after watching Andre Agassi finish off his first-round win at 12:30 a.m. EDT. Light but persistent rain forced two suspensions and left the courts empty by late afternoon.

No matches came close to completion. The nine that were in progress were to be picked up — whenever — at the point they were stopped.

"It can be tough when you're waiting around all day," said 13th-seeded Mary Pierce, still waiting to begin

her match against Elena Vesnina of Russia. "Sometimes you have to be ready in 20 minutes after you've been waiting for hours."

The top-seeded Mauresmo won her opening set against unheralded Kristina Barrois 6-1, but was trailing 2-5 in the second when play was halted for a second time.

Mauresmo was hoping to add a third Grand Slam title this year, having won the Australian Open and Wimbledon. Barrois was making her U.S. Open debut, and had said her goal was to move into the top 100.

Only a few thousand fans were in Arthur Ashe Stadium when that match began. Those sitting in the upper deck were allowed to move down to the lower, pricey seats.

That didn't stop them from booing, however, when play was stopped. Hewitt, the 2001 U.S. Open champion, and Albert

Montanes were tied at 5 in the first set when it was suspended. That came right after Hewitt's right foot slid on the slippery baseline and he almost went into a split.

Other players who managed to get on court included 2004 French Open champion Anastasia Myskina, up-and-coming French teen Gael Monfils and Americans Meghann Shaughnessy and Jamea Jackson.

The U.S. Open's official Media Operations Guide said a session must be called by 5 p.m. if play does not start. Once it begins, it's up to tournament officials. The cutoff for the night session was 9:45 p.m. The last time an entire session was called off at the Open was 2004.

With so many matches running behind, the practice courts were jammed. Often, four different players shared the same surface, simultaneously keeping

two balls in play by hitting to the opposite corners to maximize the available space.

"There's not much you can do, and there's not a lot of places you can go," Pierce said.

"I just try to stay in the locker room and make sure that I drink, that I eat, rest, take naps, read."

*"It can be tough
when you are
waiting around all
day. Sometimes you
have to be ready in
20 minutes after
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Mary Pierce
tennis player

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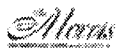
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SMC GOLF

Belles begin year at Tri-State Invite

O'Brien shoots an 82 as team finishes seventh

By BECKI DORNER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's opened its 2006 campaign with a seventh-place finish at the Tri-State Invitational Saturday.

The Belles recorded a cumulative squat total of 351, and Indianapolis took the team title with a final score of 308 at the par-73 5,828-yard Zollner Golf Course in Angola, Ind.

Ball State followed closely in second place with a 310. The overall individual medalist was Indianapolis' Kristi Piepenbrink, who finished with a two-under-par 71.

Saint Mary's junior Katie O'Brien led the Belles with an 82 — good enough to earn a tie for 20th place. A hole-in-one at the par-3 15th punctuated her back-nine score of 38.

"We have such a young team and I am very proud of all of the newcomers for playing so well under so much pressure," O'Brien said. "Tri-State is always a challenging course, especially for the newcomers who have never played it."

Freshman Kate Dornbos recorded an 89, earning the second-lowest score for the Belles in her first collegiate event. Alex Sei and Claire Orfanos finished with 90s and Bri Baker rounded out the Belles score with a nine. Orfanos and Baker also competed in the first event of their collegiate careers.

Belles coach Mark Hamilton acknowledged that the team's performance not as strong as

he hoped.

"We had moments of brilliance but we were more rusty than we should have been after a summer of playing golf," he said. "I was encouraged with what I saw from the freshman group. I expect strong performances from them once they get adjusted to the college scene."

The young Belles undoubtedly have some big FootJoys to fill. Last year, the team graduated four seniors, including MIAA league MVP and NCAA qualifier Megan Mattia, who departed after finishing 18th in the spring Division III national championships.

For O'Brien, who returns with Sei as one of the leading contributors from last season's MIAA championship team, this year promises "a lot of potential."

"I hope that our team can follow the success of previous teams and bring home another MIAA championship."

Katie O'Brien
Saint Mary's golfer

behind only Princeton and Yale.

Hamilton reiterated that the team's goal is to repeat as league winners.

"We need to work on consistency, stacking up the pars, and staying away from the big numbers [in order to repeat as champions]," he said.

The Belles' next contest is the Ferris State Invitational this weekend.

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Young Irish team has holes to fill this season

After finishing fifth last year, ND looks to build on success

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

Notre Dame heads into the 2006-07 season after placing fifth in the final ITA rankings — its best finish since becoming a Division I program in 1985-86. The Irish earned the mark after ending the year with a 27-2 record and reaching the NCAA quarterfinals.

"It was an incredible year and I was definitely glad to be a part of it," said Notre Dame senior Catrina Thompson. "Everyone was such a delight to work with."

Several changes have been made in the team's staff and lineup over the summer — a challenge as Notre Dame lost seniors Lauren Connelly, Kiki Stastny and Kelly Nelson.

Connelly, the team captain last season, competed in doubles with Stastny at No. 3. The duo ended the season 37-6.

Although Nelson only competed in two dual matches last season, she provided necessary wins for the team by finishing 2-0 and 13-2 in 2006.

"All three [seniors] will be missed," senior Christian Thompson said. "It'll be very hard to replace [Connelly and Stastny] in doubles because we could always count on them for a win in several close matches last season."

Notre Dame also lost its assistant head coach Michelle Dasso after she accepted a position as the head coach at Illinois.

"[Dasso] was a huge part of our success last season and the team knows she will make a great coach at Illinois," sophomore Katie

Potts said.

Despite these losses, Notre Dame returns several key players — making the Irish a threat once again this season.

Leading the pack are the Thompson twins, who claimed the school's first-ever title in an ITA national championship last October. After peaking at No. 1 in the ITA rankings last season, the sisters finished the season at No. 10 and with a 22-7 record.

This summer, the Thompsons also claimed two professional tournaments in doubles. They were able to compete and maintain their collegiate eligibility by not accepting prize money.

"This past summer is really going to help their confidence," Potts said. "[The Thompsons] are going to have an incredible year."

Also returning is junior Brook Buck, who played at No. 3 singles last season. Buck earned the ITA doubles title with teammate Kelcy Tefft and will compete in the Riviera/ITA All-American Championships Oct. 5-8 in Pacific Palisades, Calif.

The final returnee is Potts, who competed at No. 6 for the team last season and finished 23-2 in dual matches.

Joining the team this season are Cosmina Ciobanu, Colleen Rielley and Kali Krisik. These incoming freshmen were ranked as the nation's top class by TennisRecruiting.net. The three combined for one doubles and five singles titles in ITA events this summer.

"We're hoping to build upon the success we had last year," Christian Thompson said. "The freshman class won several singles titles this summer and I know they are going to really add depth for us."

Contact Dan Tapetillo at
jtapetil@nd.edu

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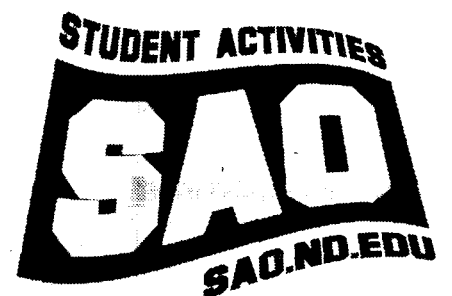
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Award

continued from page 24

Dame] was the place to be," she said.

She chose to spend her collegiate career with the Irish over hometown — and Big East rival — Louisville, as well as Saint Louis University and Purdue.

The Irish recruiting process — which she described as laid-back compared to the other schools — started with a letter from the team her freshman year and concluded with several campus visits and the ultimate decision.

"It's such a perfect fit for me," she said of Notre Dame. "My teammates especially, they're really supportive. Especially the upper classmen, who have made the transition to college really smooth."

The rookie is one of seven incoming freshmen on this year's squad that made up a recruiting class named third-best in the nation by Volleyball Magazine.

She was named a Mizuno/Volleyball All-American and was a member of Volleyball's Fab 50, a list of the top incoming high school seniors.

Those lists — and months spent poring over potential players — were the reason why Irish coach Debbie Brown was not surprised by the announcement of the Big East honors.

"We do have high expectations," said Brown of her incoming players. "We know we have several of them that were ranked very highly coming in. That they're honored with a conference rookie of the week is not real surprising to me because I know that they're a pretty talented group."

Brown credits Kaelin's outstanding showing against Bowling Green to the team's setters as well as to the young hitter, but she said that Kaelin showed initiative on the court, especially in the third game.

"[Kaelin] did a good job of mixing up her shots," Brown said. "[The setters] were making comments, 'We knew Christina wanted the ball, so we gave it to her.'"

For the match, Kaelin put up a .465 hitting percentage — 24-for-43 — and made four hitting errors. But there is still room for improvement, Brown said.

The Irish coach wants to evolve Kaelin into an all-around package who can play all six rotations by developing her blocking skills to complement the front-line three rotations she played against Bowling Green.

"We're thrilled to have her," Brown said. "We know that throughout her career she'll get better and better — and not just this year."

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

Gold

continued from page 24

Krivacek said. "I don't want to say we were complacent last year but it really wasn't the same. Winning the national championship and knowing what it feels like and what it really means makes the fire that much bigger."

"After winning it in 2004 [last year] was a little different," senior midfielder and Hermann Trophy nominee Jen Buczkowski said. "Now this year we have that taste of defeat from Portland with us still. I think now we're a little more revved up and hungry to win it again."

Krivacek, Buczkowski and Lorenzen are three members of the eight-player senior class, several of whom played critical roles in the 2004 title. To repeat their prior performance, the seniors feel they must expand their responsibilities and display the leadership embodied by 2004 senior defender and captains Melissa Tancredi and 2003 striker Amy Warner.

"We've had some great leaders," Krivacek said. "[Tancredi and Warner] really left a legacy in the program in what they brought to the team and what they expected from their teammates. I think leaders on the team try to model themselves after them."

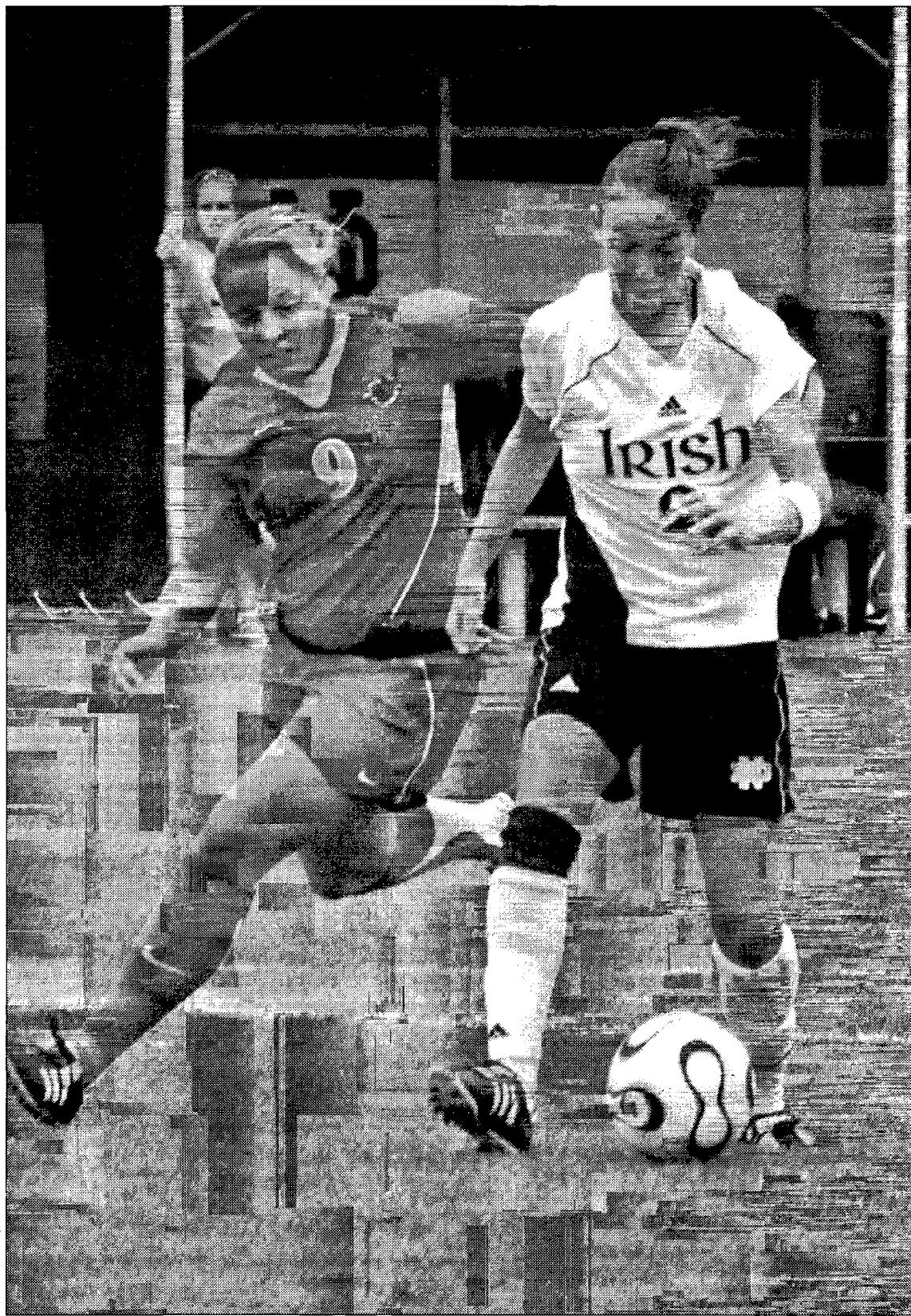
In addition to the renewed hunger of the upperclassmen, the Irish will also rely on major contributions from those still working to chase down their first collegiate championship if they hope to return to the College Cup finals for the sixth time in the past 13 years and become only the second program ever to win three national titles.

The Irish are currently without sophomore standouts midfielder Brittany Bock and defender Carrie Dew who led the U.S. national team past Germany 4-1 in the quarterfinals of the World Under-20 Championships.

Five other freshmen and sophomores tallied 60 minutes or more in Notre Dame's 3-1 win at Ole Miss Sunday afternoon that pushed Notre Dame's record to 2-0, including highly touted freshman striker Michele Weissenhofer.

For Weissenhofer, the college decision came down to Notre Dame and UCLA. Though the Naperville, Ill. native said she ultimately chose the Irish over the Bruins for a variety of reasons not necessarily related to the soccer pitch, when she laces up her boots there is only one thing on her mind.

"The final goal obviously is winning the national champi-



LAURIE HUNT/The Observer

Irish forward Kerri Hanks drives past Iowa State midfielder Jess Villhauer during Notre Dame's 9-0 win over the Cyclones Saturday.

onship like we did two years ago," Weissenhofer said. "That's what we're playing for. Everything is gearing up for that — all the other games."

That is exactly the mental attitude Irish coach Randy Waldrum was looking for when he offered Weissenhofer a scholarship.

"[During recruiting] we clearly outline our expectations and what we want to achieve," Waldrum said. "We let [recruits] know they're going to be on a team that is year in and year out strong enough to compete for a national title. There are a lot of players that don't have that work ethic. We have that expectation and we live

under that pressure."

Different coaches practice different philosophies regarding national-title talk. According to his players, Waldrum keeps no secrets regarding his goal for the Irish, holding that grail in front of everyone and providing a context for everyone to continue working hard each day — whether she already owns a ring or not — as they progress through Waldrum's three sections of the season — non-conference, Big East and the NCAA tournament.

"It's a constant motivational thing," Lorenzen said. "It's always, 'Take care of it now so we can get a good seed in the tournament.' While we do have the tournament in the

back of our minds, it's got to be a one game at a time thing and [Waldrum] constantly stresses that."

After the Irish earned their second victory in as many days with their win over the Running Rebels, Waldrum was encouraged by the ability of this season's group, as the old and new continue to mesh.

"[This team] reminds me a lot of that '04 team in the fact that ... we have a good blend of young players who have that talent but just haven't been through those wars yet," Waldrum said. "Having the upperclassmen and the experience they've had in their two and three years here only helps the young players. When we get into a situation like we did this weekend where we're in a hostile environment on the road and it's hot, the experience level really carries the team through."

Notre Dame will be tested this weekend when it welcomes a pair of Golden State teams to the Inn at St. Mary's Classic at Alumni Field. The Irish face Southern California Friday at 7:30 p.m. followed by what is projected to be their toughest regular season opponent of the year — No. 9 Santa Clara Sunday at 1 p.m.

Contact Tim Dougherty at tdougher@nd.edu

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Jackets

continued from page 24

starters — defensive end Adamm Oliver, defensive tackle Joe Anoai, and linebackers KaMichael Hall and Philip Wheeler — return. The lone veteran in the secondary is Kenny Scott, a cornerback.

A year ago, Georgia Tech's defense finished No. 13 in the country against the running game, but No. 52 against the pass, allowing 103.9 and 213.6 yards per game, respectively. They finished No. 22 nationally in total defense.

The offense boasts eight veterans — including All-American receiver Calvin Johnson, starting quarterback Reggie Ball and four offensive linemen — but new starters will sprinkle the field. Gailey isn't sure how they'll react in their first game under the lights — a game that also happens to be in prime time and against a possible national championship contender.

"There are a lot of things that we are looking for — small things on an individual basis and large areas as far as certain teams, packages and groups," Gailey said. "You don't know. You have not seen anything, so you are waiting to see how it works out."

The Yellow Jacket offense averaged less than 200 yards per game in the air last year — No. 89 in Division I-A. Rushing was 40 spots better at 153.8 yards per game. But the much-maligned numbers of last year's offense aren't Gailey's primary concern.

"I think that's speculation, and [let's] wait and see what happens," he said. "The bottom line is to win the game — it's not statistics."

Running back Tashard Choice, in his first year as a starter, said a major offensive problem was mental mistakes and failing to capitalize on red-zone opportunities.

"This year we understand that we want to pick up and improve from last year," he said during the teleconference. "You have to continue to get better from year to year. This year we're focused on capitalizing on mistakes made by the defense so we put points on the board, allowing us to rely on our defense and special teams."

Winning isn't new to the Yellow Jackets — and highly ranked teams don't intimidate them, either. Last year, they beat then-No. 3 Miami and then-No. 15 Auburn. The Irish stand at No. 2 in the Associated Press poll and are tied for third in the coaches.

Still, Gailey doesn't take Weis lightly.

"[Weis] picks and chooses what he thinks his advantages are, and he does a really good job of creating advantages for his people," Gailey said. "That's what made them good last year."

A new wrinkle in the Irish defense will be the addition of Travis Thomas, listed as the starter at weakside linebacker.

"We don't know a thing about him at linebacker," Gailey said. "We'll just have to wait and see how he looks on the field."

Gailey doesn't have long to wait.

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

Opener

continued from page 24

about players, fans and the media — they are restless.

"I think the players are ready to play against somebody else,"

he said at a press conference Tuesday.

"I'm sure Georgia Tech feels the same way. It gets old going against each other."

Weis is wary of facing Johnson and his three-year starting quarterback

Reggie Ball, who will take the snap behind an offensive line returning four veterans.

"It always starts with the quarterback," Weis said. "Any time you have a quarterback that's a dual threat, it's a concern. Any time you have a quarterback that can throw and can run, you know, it's not like just a drop-back quarterback that all you have to do is put pressure in his face the whole time. This guy can hurt

you — he can legitimately hurt you."

Protection by the experienced offensive line — as well as depth and talent at running back and Johnson at receiver — means that the Yellow Jackets offense could be dangerous.

"Any time you have two veteran lines, you have to think that you have a chance."

Charlie Weis
Irish coach

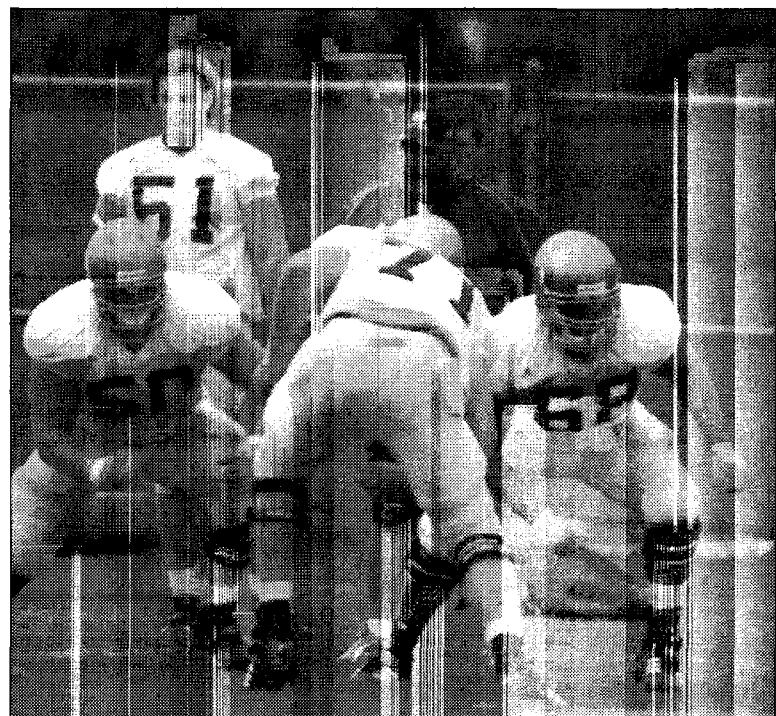
what we can or cannot do." Although it's hard to judge special teams outside of the game context, Weis said, he was confident about them as well.

"I expect a very good performance," he said.

Overall, Weis was unabashed about admitting he thinks that the team that will take the field against Georgia Tech on Saturday is better than the one that lost 34-20 to Ohio State in

But Weis is confident that his own questions have been settled to a satisfactory degree during camp.

"I think that our linebackers have settled in nicely," he said. "I know who can do what. I wouldn't say I have too many questions about



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Offensive line coach John Latina barks at his linemen, including guard Dan Santucci (50) and tackle Ryan Harris (68) at practice Friday.

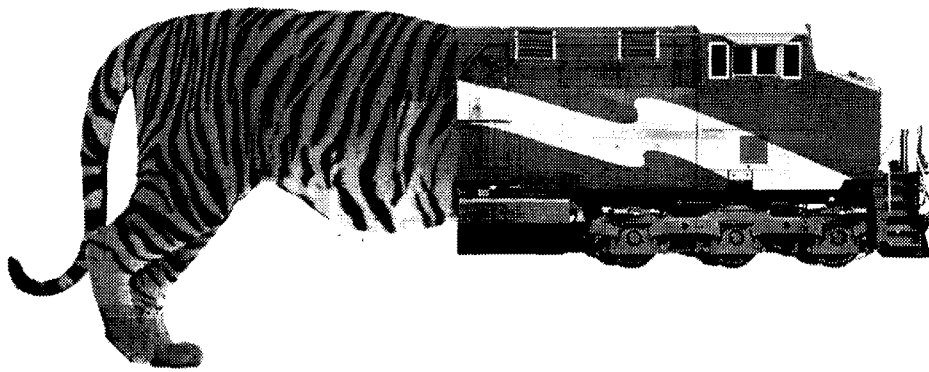
the Fiesta Bowl. Specifically, he traces the improvement to the return of basically four starters on both the offensive and defensive lines.

"Any time you have two vet-

eran lines, you have to think that you have a chance," he said.

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

unleash your potential



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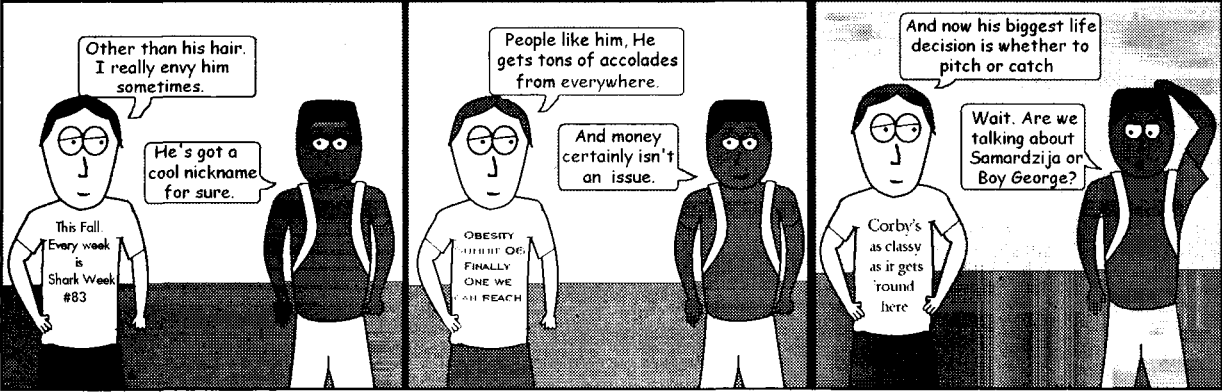


imagination at work

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JOCULAR

ALEC WHITE



CROISSANTWORLD

ADAM FAIRHOLM



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**

1 Dismay

6 Like flags

10 Rap sheet letters

13 Ragú rival

14 Native Canadian

15 Hasty escape

16 Tchaikovsky overture

19 Carrier to Europe

20 S ____ sugar

21 Former Georgia senator Sam

22 Frost-covered

24 Boiling point of water on the Celsius scale

28 Noted painter of flowers

30 Opposite end of the point
- 31 Composer Franck

32 Best Picture of 1958

33 Number of plays attributed to William Shakespeare

38 "Rats!"

39 Decorative pitchers

42 " ____ Mucho"

45 Can't-miss proposition

47 Heinz tally of flavors

49 "Star Trek" helmsman

50 Fuji film competitor

51 "What ____ can I say?"

53 Test site

54 Sum of 16-, 24-, 33- and 47-Across
- DOWN**

1 Boorish

2 Most stiffly proper

3 Good baseball throw

4 Turkish title

5 Much

6 Locale

7 Directional suffix

8 Freshly painted

9 Fresh

10 Fascination

11 Julie known as the voice of Marge Simpson

12 Fix

17 Article in Die Zeit

18 Extremes

19 Former McDonald's head Ray

23 "Woo-hoo!"

25 " ____ an Englishman" ("H.M.S. Pinafore" song)

26 Impel

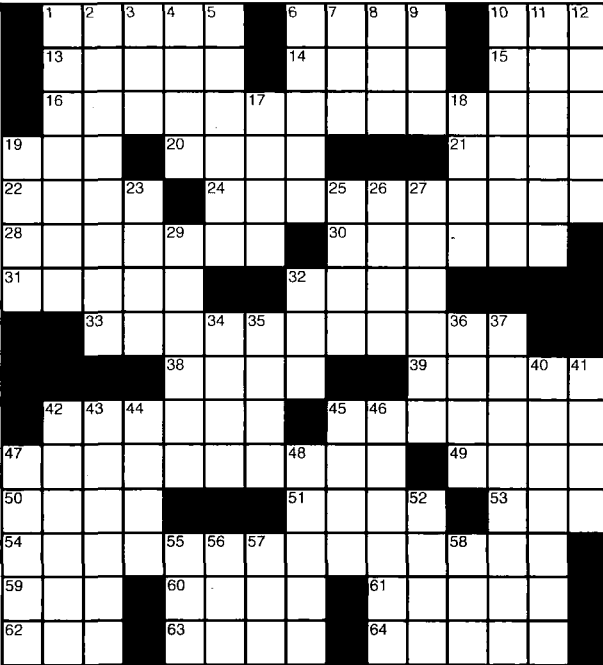
27 Less worldly

29 Islamic Sabbath

32 Ob- ____

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | S | B | A | L | S | A | O | P | T | S |
| D | A | A | E | I | C | E | I | N | B | R | I | T |
| D | I | V | A | C | H | A | N | D | E | L | I | E |
| S | T | E | W | S | E | S | E | S | A | M | O | A |
| | | | | A | N | D | R | E | W | S | T | A |
| S | E | T | T | L | E | | R | E | E | | | |
| A | S | H | E | | A | I | S | L | E | S | | O |
| U | S | E | R | | L | L | O | Y | D | | O | N |
| L | O | P | | P | E | L | L | E | T | | U | N |
| | | | H | E | A | R | | | | A | L | T |
| A | D | A | I | R | | W | E | B | B | E | R | |
| G | O | N | G | S | | I | V | E | | N | A | G |
| O | F | T | H | E | O | P | E | R | A | | C | A |
| R | O | O | T | | H | E | N | R | I | | E | R |
| A | R | M | Y | | O | S | T | A | R | | D | Y |



- Puzzle by Mel Rosen
- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 34 Butts | 43 Physical exertion | 48 Sleeveless garments |
| 35 Koala's hangout | 44 Photo repro | 52 Barely beat |
| 36 Pasture parents | 45 Ward of "The Fugitive," 1993 | 55 Make a bed? |
| 37 Convert to a fine spray | 46 Open with a pop | 56 Furniture wood |
| 40 Salon treatment | 47 Political party in Palestine | 57 Homonym for 36-Down |
| 41 One-inch pencil, for example | | 58 Convened |
| 42 V.I.P. | | |

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LAQUI
O _ _ _ _
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JEGUD
_ _ _ _ _

PITTEE
_ _ _ _ _
www.jumble.com

THACLE
_ _ _ _ _



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans: _ _ _ _ _ AND _ _ _ _ _
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HASTY BELIE STRONG FUTURE
Answer: What the king experienced when he was awakened by the protesters - A STATE OF "UNREST"

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lauren Collins, 19; Dante Basco, 30; Robin Leach, 64; Rebecca De Mornay, 43

Happy Birthday: You may have trouble making up your mind, and that will hold you back this year. Start jumping in with both feet, doing whatever has to be done to get you where you envision yourself being. You have so much insight this year that you shouldn't be second-guessing your every move. That is only a waste of valuable time, better used for accomplishing. Your numbers are 13, 15, 17, 29, 34, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Stop taking everything so seriously. If something doesn't turn out the way you want, don't sweat it. Get help if you need it and work on projects you know you are good at. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't fool yourself into thinking you don't need help to get things done. Plenty of people will be willing to work alongside you, but they won't be willing to take orders. Use diplomacy. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): This is a great day to be creative or fall in love all over again. You will be in an affectionate and loving mood. Reevaluate your motives and where you see yourself headed in the future. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your emotions will be a little over the top today, but as long as you are giving and project kindness, you will do just fine. Watch out for someone who is trying to take advantage of you financially. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll have the wherewithal to make some very creative changes in your life today. Although not everyone will agree with what you are doing, follow through and ignore the fact that some people around you lack vision. An older relative may be a burden. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): As long as you try to get along with everyone around you, you can reach some degree of success today. What you do now is what will count in the future. The more accepting and adaptable you are, the further you will go. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Arguing will get you nowhere. Being responsible for your own actions is the best you can do. Put financial ventures with family members or friends on hold until you have a better understanding of what is involved. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): This is the perfect day to meet new people and form new friendships or work relationships. Put together a proposal and promote what you are working on, but don't present just yet. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): No more waiting around for someone else to pick up the slack. Get moving and take responsibility for your future. It is worth taking a short trip to visit someone who can help you sort out money problems. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll be up and down regarding personal issues. Take a trip to get a change of scenery. Your uncertainty is probably making the people around you nervous. Try to avoid emotional encounters. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take the time to make some personal improvements. Educational pursuits or just updating your looks will help. If you decide to keep things the same, you can expect to make very few gains. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look on the bright side today and you will find positive ways to develop new interests, friendships or partnerships. Romance will be prominent. Your uniqueness will lead to greater options. *****

Birthday Baby: You have an elegant way of presenting yourself. You are gracious and accommodating but still manage to stay in control. You are compassionate and fair.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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FOOTBALL

Weis prepares, Gailey questions

Irish coach versed in all facets of Yellow Jackets' game plan

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

Charlie Weis knows that Georgia Tech's two backup quarterbacks are left-handed.

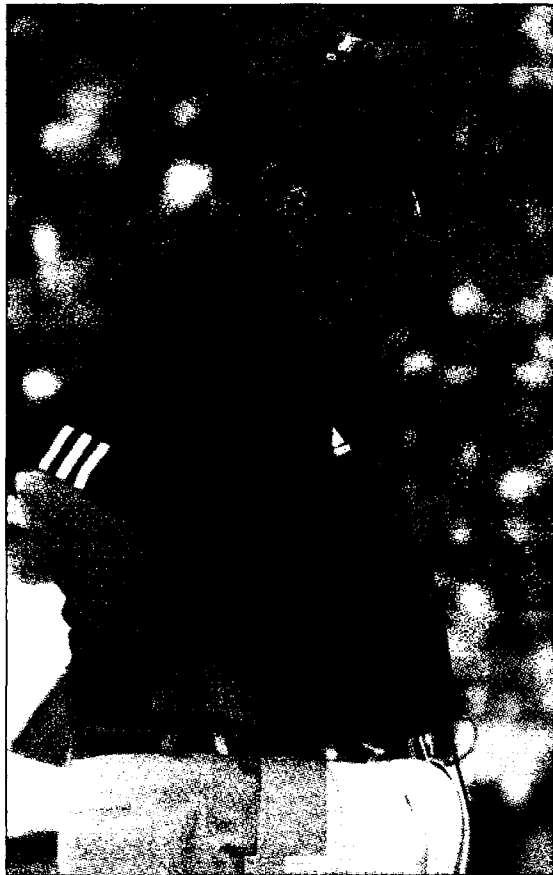
He watched tape of Henderson State dating back to 1999 and 2000 when Yellow Jackets offensive coordinator Patrick Nix was the head coach.

And he knows how many pass interference plays have been called against All-America receiver Calvin Johnson's defenders — it's 16, if you were wondering.

Notre Dame's second-year head coach enters Saturday night's 2006 season opener at Georgia Tech knowing everything there is to know about the Yellow Jackets.

Weis also knows something

see OPENER/page 22



Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis, left, and Georgia Tech's Chan Gailey match playbooks Saturday night when their teams meet in Atlanta.



BETH WERNET/The Observer and AP

Head Jacket keeps young Tech team focused before opener

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

The hype is deafening, and Chan Gailey is trying to stay focused on the questions his team has yet to answer.

Gailey, Georgia Tech's head coach, is trying to limit the speculation and concentrate on his players — many wet behind the ears — and the game they will bring to Bobby Dodd Stadium Saturday.

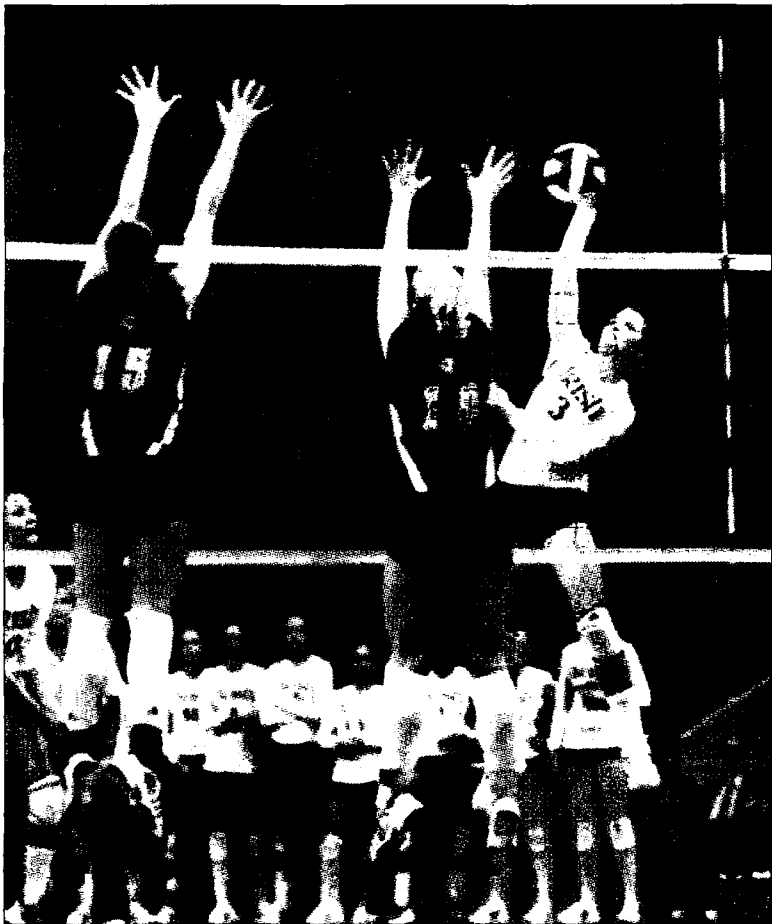
"You've got some guys who have not played extensively in games before, so you are anxious to see how they will react and handle themselves," he said Tuesday during his weekly teleconference.

Although the Yellow Jackets — who were 7-5 in 2005 — return 15 starters, only five play on defense. Four of those

see JACKETS/page 22

ND VOLLEYBALL

Kaelin making immediate impact



HY PHAM/The Observer

Christina Kaelin, right, spikes a ball during Notre Dame's 3-0 victory over Ball State Friday.

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame freshman Christina Kaelin was selected Monday as Big East Rookie of the Week, only two days after the Irish hitter put in a 24-kill performance against Bowling Green.

It was the first time an Irish player had accumulated more than 20 kills in a single match since current junior Ellen Heintzman had 22 kills in five games on Nov. 26, 2005.

Kaelin, however, set her mark in just three games.

"A week ago I didn't know where I was going to be in the starting lineup," Kaelin said. "I thought it was a big shock — I didn't even know they gave out that award. It was a good honor."

And the honor is only the start of a homecoming of sorts for the Louisville native. Born in South Bend, Kaelin moved away from the city at the age of two, but has always felt a connection with the school.

"Just growing up, [Notre

see AWARD/page 21

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Two titles aren't enough for team

Talented squad hopes to repeat 2004 finish

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

When it comes to postseason hardware, Notre Dame women are gold diggers. Fifteen months after outlasting UCLA 1-1 in a shootout (4-3) to bring home the program's second national championship in 2004, the Irish are mining as hard as ever for another piece of NCAA gold.

The first time around was quite a rush, so much so that 2006 senior captain and defender Kim Lorenzen says she still can't transform her emotions into precise words, a feeling that the players around from the 24-1-1 2004 squad are having a hard time living without.

"The perception is once you get one national championship it's probably good

enough for everyone," Lorenzen said. "To be honest, every season is new and all teams every year are different. Now this year we have to prove to everyone that it wasn't just a one-time thing. Notre Dame is a top team that can do it more than once."

Senior midfielder Jill Krivacek, then a sophomore, scored the final goal of Notre Dame's 2004 season when her penalty kick eluded UCLA keeper Valerie Henderson, before an Erika Bohn save netted Notre Dame's second title. The win made the Irish the first two-time champion besides North Carolina, which has won 18.

Portland equaled Notre Dame's feat last year when the Pilots won their second title, toppling the Irish 4-1 in the NCAA quarterfinals along the way. The Irish said the loss refocused the team and reignited its ambitions.

"I think the fire is back,"

see GOLD/page 21

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

SMC GOLF

Belles finish in seventh place at Tri-State Invitational.

page 19

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish hope to keep up dominance this season after the loss of three seniors.

page 19

U.S. OPEN

Rain postpones 50 matches at Flushing Meadows.

page 18

MLB

Pirates 7, Cubs 6

Ryan Dempster walks in the winning run in the 11th inning.

page 15

MLB

Phillies 10, Washington 6

Ryan Howard hits MLB-leading 48th homerun.

page 15

MLB

Indians 5, Blue Jays 2

C.C. Sabathia throws a four-hit complete game to lead Tribe to victory.

page 15